



NINETEENTH YEAR, No. 3.

MILWAUKEE, MARCH, 1894.

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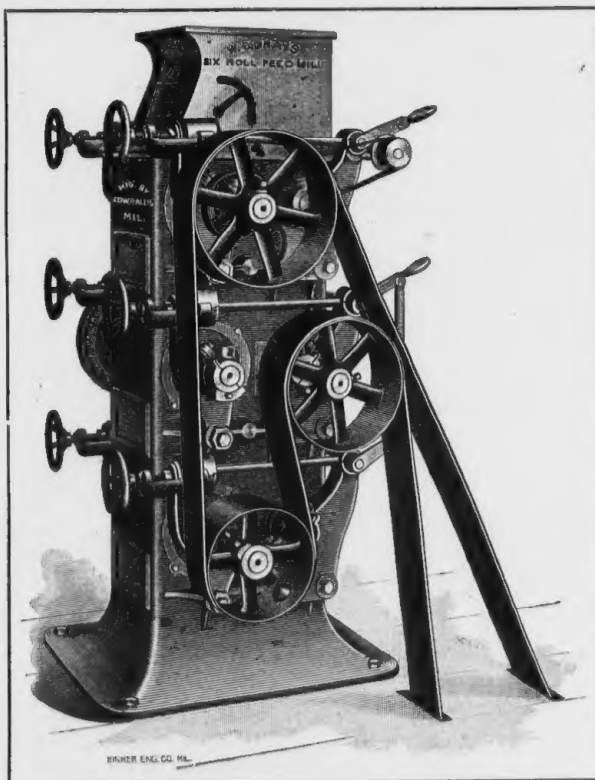
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Oct. 26, 1893.

To the Edward P. Allis Company,
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Dear Sirs: I have the new style N six roller mill at work, and I just want to say that it comes the nearest to a perfect mill for grinding meal and feed of anything I ever saw. The gears are the quietest running of any I ever saw. In fact they do not make any noise at all. I am more than satisfied.

Yours truly,

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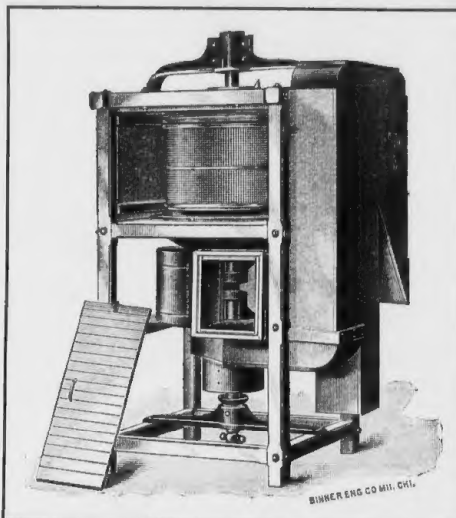
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IT WILL SCOUR SMUTTY WHEAT PERFECTLY.

WE GUARANTEE THIS MACHINE IN EVERY RESPECT.

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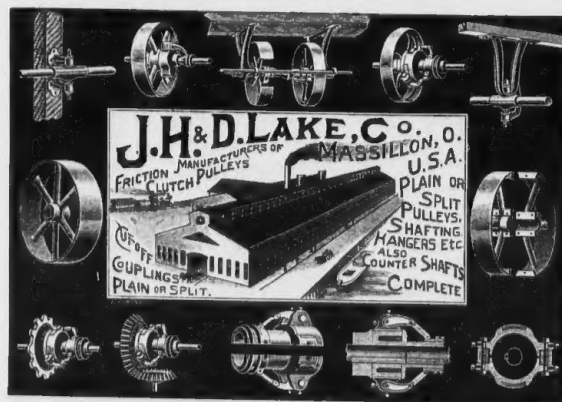


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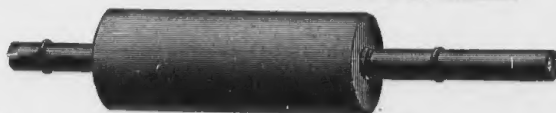
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RANDOM THOUGHTS.

BY WANDERER.

IT is impossible for a bearing to run cool until the high places are reduced so that there will be a uniform film of unguent between the two surfaces. It is a custom for millers, when ordering oil, to mention simply "lubricating oil," without specifying the kind of bearings for which it is to be used. The latter is a very essential point. Frequently when the oil is received it is found to give very poor satisfaction, and some of the bearings are found to run hot. Under these circumstances, the oil is generally charged with the fault, when, in reality, the fault has been in giving the order. A good lubricant for close-fitting, fast-running bearings must be of a very fine quality, and have a light body in order to distribute itself between the close-fitting surfaces. Such a lubricant is entirely unfit for large bearings, where body is required to carry the heavy weight which is placed upon them. It is the practice in a great many mills to use the same kind of lubricating oil for all the machinery, which, when properly considered, is both unreasonable and extravagant, for the reason that a bearing when improperly lubricated is worn away much faster than it would otherwise be, and on many of the special machines the lost motion in the bearings require frequent attention.

The amount of lubricating oil which is wasted in mills is enormous, and this is caused more by lack of knowledge on the part of employees generally than through any wanton desire to waste it. It would not be extravagant to assert that the amount of oil wasted in mills is nearly half of that ostensibly used. In lubricating shafting a great deal of oil is wasted, where shafting is suspended in ordinary boxes most of the oil leaves the journal almost as soon as poured into the box, and finds its way, dirty and fouled, into the dripper, and once there it becomes mixed up with flour and dust and becomes almost worthless for further use. Journal boxes

made to retain the oil are much more economical than the ordinary style.

About the first remedy that a great many millers have to apply for the purpose of cooling down a hot bearing is to pour on more oil. This is certainly very wasteful. Water acts much better in all cases. Indeed water is an excellent lubricant so long as it remains in place between the journal and the box, and would be far better than oil if it could be kept there. Oil after passing between a heated journal and box is comparatively worthless for lubricating purposes.

There is another consideration and that is waste of power. How common it is on going into a mill to hear the belt screeching on the pulleys. If a belt is allowed to rub on a tight pulley, or any other fixed object, it is at once heated and stretched. If on the edges of tight pulleys, which is quite common, its driving power is impaired. A screeching belt should be hunted up at once, and corrected just the same as a heated journal. A belt always runs to the nearest end of the shaft, which is the opposite way from that which is generally supposed. The old theory that a belt always runs to the highest part may be true, and is undoubtedly true with reference to the convexity of the face of pulleys, but does not apply to pulleys that are set diagonally to the line of the belt. These considerations may serve to direct millers' attention to these subjects. It is important that all journals should be properly cared for, and too much attention cannot be paid to the belting.

To gear a mill wholly by belts and to do it judiciously and to the best advantage requires nice calculation, careful judgment and considerable practical experience. Many mills have been so belted as to cause a large amount of friction. In laying out the power transmission machinery it is worth much time and pains to arrange the pulleys and belts in such a manner that, so far as may be practical, the stress of one belt upon the journals may be

counteracted by that of another belt in an opposite direction. This refers to the stress upon the main drives, the counter drives being of minor consequence, but where the main power is to be exerted to throw the stress upon one belt into that of another there is economy in the wear of the entire mill gear as well as in power, both of which are points of great importance. This has not always been observed, for it is sometimes more convenient in arranging the gear and machinery of a mill to place the main belts upon one side of the mill instead of the center. The effect of this arrangement is to throw the entire stress of the belts upon one side of the journals of the main shaft. This should be avoided. It is of importance that each belt should be of such a length that it will adhere to the pulley in such a way that there shall be no slipping and without having to pull on the belt so tight that it will cramp the drums and wear the bearings. Every belt to run easy and well should be so slack when running that the slack side should run with a weaving, undulating motion, without any tension except on the leadingside, and when belts will run so without slipping on pulleys they will wear for a great length of time. Although a belt may be heavily loaded, yet, if at every revolution it can have an opportunity for relief from its tension so as to contract to its natural state, it will be prevented from breaking with the stress upon it. But if it be kept drawn so tensely as to be constantly strained to its greatest extent on both sides, it will wear only for a short time before cracking the edges and will soon be destroyed.

PROSPECTS FOR WHEAT IN WASHINGTON.

Joseph Merchant, of Wallula Wash., reports that farmers in his section are busy in their fields sowing wheat, and that the ground is in better condition than it has ever been known before, being wet down several feet. This is regarded as almost assurance of good wheat crop the coming season. Should a dry season

ensue the moisture now stored in the ground would be sufficient for the needs of the growing grain with but little additional rainfall. Unless injured by hot winds a big wheat yield is anticipated this year. Mr. Merchant reports that there are over 100,000 bu. of unthreshed grain in the stack on the hills at Wallula.

NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN FLOUR.

The actual receipts of wheat from the Argentine Republic for the half year amounted to 6,048,700 bushels, or just about 20 per cent of the total imports from both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States, as compared with less than 8 per cent during the first half of 1892, which shows a considerable growth on the part of our Southern neighbor. At the same time, we learn through the bureau of the American Republics that for this year the area planted in the Argentine Republic was 14,900,000 acres of wheat and 5,875,000 acres of corn. While referring to this expansion of the South American cereal exports to Great Britain at the expense of those from North America, it is desirable to note that the Britishers believe there has been a depreciation in the quality of American flour imported into their country within the past few years, and a steady improvement in the British flour. "Bakers, wide experienced, expressed themselves to this effect," and the depreciations is regarded as being "in the nature of things," because of the retrocession of the hard wheat belt, and that the flours first shipped to secure for America her position in the British market were best grades that had been carefully selected for their quality, it not being expected that the bulk of the shipments from here could maintain that high standard throughout.

While referring to the above as a warning to American millers, it is but fair to note that our exports of American flour during the recent cereal year have been simply enormous and unprecedented in the history of our trade.—*American Economist*.

INFLUENCES GOVERNING WHEAT PRICES.

In an editorial comment on wheat questions the *London Daily Financial Times* says: Of all the factors to which we have referred as instrumental in causing the momentous fall in the quotation of American wheat, one of the most important is the decline in the demand from abroad. The United Kingdom is by far the largest market for American breadstuffs, and if we analyze our Board of Trade returns for last month we get a good clue to the situation. From the subjoined table the course of our wheat imports last month, as compared with January, 1893, will be realized at a glance. It should be added that previous months' returns show a turn of affairs not very dissimilar. United Kingdom wheat imports.

	Jan. 1893.	Jan. 1894
	cwt.	cwt.
Russia.....	687,972	1,147,520
Chili.....	61,520	170,637
Argentina.....	77,927	115,490
British India.....	184,127	960,823
Australasia.....	20,422	52,418
British North America.....	8,862	47,505
Other countries, except U. S. A.....	91,945	55,444
Total, cwt.....	1,137,775	2,279,927
U. S. A., Atlantic.....	2,281,251	1,222,933
U. S. A., Pacific.....	787,762	549,400
Total, cwt.....	3,069,013	1,772,333
Aggregate, cwt.....	4,206,788	4,052,260

It will be seen that, whereas our wheat imports from the United States during January, 1893, exceeded by nearly two million cwts. those we obtained from the rest of the world, last January the positions were reversed, and we obtained from other sources of supply a half million cwts. more than the total imported from the States. The positive falling off in the shipments from the United States amounts to 1,296,680 cwts; relatively it is much greater. To a large extent the causes producing this result are accidental—that is to say, in most instances they are due to better harvests in several countries, notably in Russia and British India, and not to any permanent expansion in the extraneous sources of supply. For example, in January, 1892, we imported over twice as much wheat from British India, and also more from Chili and Australasia. It is long, however, since we obtained as large a quantity from Russia in the first month of the year, and in Argentina the United States have to face a competitor who is yearly becoming more formidable. Despite the fact then, of a partial failure of the harvest in several European countries, it is evidently the extent of the foreign available supply which is largely responsible for driving down the price of American wheat. Nor is their much indication at present of values improving. The visible supply of wheat in the United States, that is to

say, the stocks in granary at the chief points of accumulation and in transits is still very large, while the invisible supplies or the stocks in farmers' hands are believed to be considerable, though it is very difficult to estimate these with approach to accuracy. Much will depend upon the condition of the growing crop, which, though it has been singularly favored so far, has still a trying meteorological period to get through. — *Cincinnati Price Current*.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CROP.

The Wheat Harvest.

It is no longer necessary to refer to the prospects of the harvest. Although an estimate has not yet been made of the out-turn, the detailed returns coming to hand from the country show that the yield is not likely to be less than 8 bushels to the acre. Even as much as 9 bushels is spoken of. In any case South Australia will have a large surplus to export, probably 300,000 tons. The weather has been exceptionally favorable all through, enabling the farmers to gather in the wheat in good condition. The quality of the new crop is good and at the usual meeting of the Corn Trade Committee of the Chamber of Commerce the standard weight for the season was fixed at 63 lbs. per bushel against 62 lbs. last year and 64 lbs. two years ago. Sealed packages of this average sample of the colony, weighing 63 lbs., are being sent to London and Liverpool to act as a basis in the selling of cargoes. — *Corn Trade News, Liverpool*.

THE FRENCH WHEAT DUTY.

The French Chamber of Deputies have agreed, by the overwhelming majority of 200 votes, to the wheat duty being raised from 8s. 9d. to 12s. 9d. per qr., the sum which it was understood the Government and the Senate approved. As the Chamber's own Committee had previously reported in favor of a 14s. duty, the vote embodied a certain compromise. The Protectionist irreconcilables refused to coalesce with the Government, and insisted on taking a division, but they only mustered ninety votes in favor of an 18s. duty. The sliding scale was rejected by a somewhat smaller majority than that which voted against extreme protection, while the out-and-out Freetraders were worsted even more decisively than the extreme Protectionists. The feature of the long debate, which lasted six days, was the strong case made out by the Parliamentary Socialists, who favored a fixed price for bread and a Government purchase from the Farmers of the home

crop. I wish our own Socialists were even thus far on the road to sanity, but the English doctrinaire, who has a "living wage" for every mechanic and a "minimum" for every dock loafer, has neither for the farmer. — *Mark Lane Express*.

AMERICAN FLOUR ABROAD.

High Grades Can Be Sold, but Poor Flour Is not Wanted.

A press dispatch from Washington says:

J. M. Crawford, United States Consul at St. Petersburg, in reply to the wheat and flour department of the State department says: "There is no doubt that the Russian people as a whole are ready to eat American flour, providing that it costs them no more than the corresponding grades of that manufactured at home." He concludes that owing to the surplus of wheat produced by Russia, that the chance of extending American trade in wheat and flour is small.

James H. Smith, commercial agent at Mayence, says the Germans preferred rye bread to wheat bread. Immense quantities of American wheat are ground up into flour in Germany. The German milling is considered better than that in the United States. He says: If the American flouring mills will compete in Germany with as good a product as the German mills turn out, they can find a market.

Charles L. Whitley, consul at St. Stienne, France, thinks the main obstacles to an extension of trade in American flour are the customs duties and cost of transportation. They prefer to import Russian wheat and grind it.

Byron G. Daniels, consul at Hull, says: "The American flour retains supremacy in the official returns, and everything points to still further development of trade, especially when the area of wheat cultivation in the United Kingdom is being constantly restricted."

Wilbur B. Hale, consul at Nice, says: American flour is said to have been brought there in small quantities and to have been sold at better terms than other kinds, even against the disadvantages of freights, etc. American high grades of flour at equal prices with those of other countries should meet with ready acceptance, but I should recommend samples to be put in the hands of brokers before making large consignments."

W. E. Mantius, commercial agent at Turin, Italy, says: "The tax on imported food is the chief obstacle to the trade. He says: "An enterprising business house in Turin undertook to introduce American flour. Samples sent from the United States proved to be satisfactory, and the firm figured out that by close calculation and shrewd management, American flour could be sold profitably."

THE EFFICACY OF SPRINKLERS IN FIRE PROTECTION.

From the East comes a story of work by automatic sprinklers, which argues well for those devices. The illustration occurred in the storehouse of the Piedmont mills, in North Carolina, and shows the value of sprinklers in saving property, contiguous to a fire, by holding the same where it originated, though it cannot extinguish it.

The upper floor of the storehouse, where the fire originated, contained 829 bales packed in solid mass, without passages,

as closely as possible and to a height of from ten to twelve feet, and to within about two feet of the sprinkler pipes. There were also 131 bales packed in the same fashion on the lower floor. After some 500 bales had been removed, it was discovered that thirty-six bales of cotton were on fire internally, the sprinklers drenching with water the outside, preventing the fire from reaching the exterior of the bales.

The bales on fire were lying on a bottom tier of bales free from fire, and there were other bales piled together on top of them, none of which were on fire; so that it was confined in the middle of the height and width of the compact mass of uncompressed cotton bales. The burning bales had not disintegrated, and each was carried out separately and all cotton removed.

Seven sprinklers operated and must have opened ten or twelve hours before the fact was discovered, (on Sunday morning) by the water running out of the door of the warehouse. The building was not scorched and gave no evidence of a fire having occurred. On the thirty-six bales which were on fire the loss was adjusted at 66 2/3 per cent. On 724 bales of water-soaked cotton \$3.28 each was paid.

This is one of the most remarkable exhibitions of sprinkler protection that has occurred. — *Inter Ocean*.

EXPORT OF BREADSTUFFS FOR FEBRUARY.

The following, from the Bulletin of the U. S. Bureau of Statistics, shows the amount and value of domestic breadstuffs exported from all American ports during the month of February 1894, as compared with same month, 1893:

	1894.		1893.	
	Bush.	Value.	Bush.	Value.
Barley.....	288,081	\$ 124,590	209,053	\$ 106,282
Corn.....	5,705,070	2,567,947	3,312,502	1,750,643
Oats.....	37,446	13,651	38,257	12,257
Rye.....	101,030	65,910	65,910	65,910
Wheat.....	4,000,989	2,517,185	8,475,422	6,650,525
Total.....	10,031,615	\$5,223,353	12,154,246	\$8,582,617

There were also exported during the month of February, 1894: 17,795 bbls. corn meal, valued at \$45,999; 839,547 lbs. oat meal, valued at \$21,329; and 1,133,632 barrels wheat flour, valued at \$4,581,260. Total decrease in Breadstuffs under February 1893: \$3,389,700.

THE D. H. Ranck Publishing Co., Chicago, Ill., publishers of *Milling*, have removed from No. 358 Dearborn st. to No. 34 S. Clark st.

EXPORTING millers should write to the Riverside Printing Co., Milwaukee, Wis., for the best Flour Cable Code ever published. There are more copies of this code in use than of ALL other flour codes published. It is simple and accurate. It is called "The Riverside Flour Cable Code."

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THE MILLERS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

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Associations.

THE Kentucky Millers' Association will hold a meeting March 21st.

THE Executive Committee of The Millers' National Association, held its quarterly meeting at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, on Thursday, March 15th, at which time it was decided to hold the next Millers' National Convention at Chicago, June 13th.

A LEADING milling journal of Europe, published at Liverpool, Eng., *Milling*, commenting on the lack of energy of the Oregon and Washington Millers' Association in not keeping together, says: "It is a pity that millers do not consult their own interests better and combine more readily and effectually."

THERE is some report that there will be an effort made to revive the Oregon and Washington Millers' Association this spring. If so, Mr. J. D. Hurst, of Aurora, is the only man who can bring millers, not in the Association at the present time, in the fold. He is an old-time miller and knows every one in the State, and has the ability to handle the Association and make it a success.—*Commercial Review*.

THE Cumberland Valley Millers' Association held its annual meeting at Carlisle, February 22d. The officers for the past year made their reports, and officers for the ensuing year were elected. This Association has been a source of great profit to its members, in that it has stopped, to a great extent, the expensive and foolish practice—price-cutting. The Association merits and should have the support of every miller in the Cumberland Valley.

THE Iowa Millers' Association has a committee of six at work with the General Assembly, attempting to secure the repeal of the unjust and ob-

noxious fishway law, which provides that all water-power owners shall weaken their dams and reduce their power, in order to facilitate sociability among the finny tribes. The Association should receive unsolicited the personal and financial support of every water-power owner in the State to protect the manufacturing industries.

THE New S. W. Winter Wheat Millers' Association has joined with other local organizations in an appeal to Congress, by a communication reading as follows:

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 1, 1894.
To United States Senators Vest, Cockrell, Manderson, Allen, Martin, Peffer, Wilson and Allison,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN:—The Southwestern Winter Wheat Millers' Association, representing the flour milling industry in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Oklahoma, joins with the Winter Wheat Millers' League and the Millers' of the Northwest in petitioning your honorable body to so amend the proposed tariff law, known as the Wilson bill, as to permit the Government to protect this great industry from discriminating and prohibitory legislation by breadstuff importing countries.

As has been ably represented to your honorable body, the millers of America do not ask any special legislation. They are able and anxious to meet any fair competition, in any country, but they seek relief from discriminating legislation of countries looking to the United States for commercial extension on the most favorable terms.

They believe the method suggested by the "Harter amendment" is a wise one and earnestly request you to give the matter your support.

Respectfully,

AUGUSTINE GALLAGHER, Sec'y.

IS IT A VICTORY?

CLEVELAND O., March 5, '94.

Editor U. S. Miller:

I notice in the February 23d issue of your Minneapolis contemporary, an article with unusually heavy "scare" headlines setting forth the wonderful "victory" achieved by its correspondent, Mr. E. E. Perry, for the Winter Wheat Millers' League, in the direction of patent litigation. The editor evidently is impressed with the

idea that this League is a great institution, doing efficient work quietly, and accomplishing splendid results, without "blowing its horn." I am not inclined to favor the idea of local or sectional Associations attempting to meddle with matters engaging the attention and interest of the whole milling public. I do not think that patent troubles can be successfully dealt with by a half a dozen organizations, all pulling in different directions; and I am of the opinion that this "Victory" of the League is a "blind lead." I have no wish to belittle any good work that may be done for Millers, nor is it necessary that good work shall be done by any particular organization to merit approbation, but it would seem that the defense against invalid patent claims, in which all millers are interested, could be handled to the best advantage and at the least expense by the National Millers' Organization.

The article referred to clearly intends to convey the impression that the decision of Judge Sage, in opening the case of The Jonathan Mills Co. vs. Whitehurst for rehearing, practically decides the suit against the Mills Co. Those who have had experience in this sort of business know, that no law suit is decided until it is tried. While those who interested themselves have made a discovery as to the Mills title (which others have known all the time), I cannot see wherein the question of the validity of the title claimed by the Mills Co. is going to affect the sweeping decision of Judge Sage sustaining this patent on the broadest grounds.

If the Miller's League feels that it has jumped into the ring and drew first blood,—very well, give that organization credit for what it has done, but don't forget the circumstances a little later. Will anyone be better off, (excepting Whitehurst, for the time being) from a possible decision upon the rehearing, that the Mills title is weak? If that title is not good, someone must have a better one, and Judge Sage's decision on the merits of the patent makes it just as dangerous to Millers in general, no matter who owns it. Now let some other local or sectional association take a whirl at this gladiator, and perhaps draw another spot of claret. Experiences of this kind will in time, perhaps, convince Millers that the lesson taught years ago in the Cochran, Denchfield and Smith suits (when nearly every state association engaged in a fight for members, and after squandering a world of money with no results, finally united in a National Association), might have been remembered with profit.

B. M.

ENJOINED THE ST. LOUIS.

Must Not Interfere With the Building of a Certain Line.

Receiver Truesdale, of the Minneapolis and St. Louis railway, was this morning directed not to interfere with the Minneapolis Western railway in laying a track to the mills of the C. C. Washburn Flouring Mill, though the tracks cross those of his road.

The Western railway desired to reach the property of the C. C. Washburn Flouring Mills Company, but could not do so without crossing the tracks of the St. Louis road. The latter railway resisted any attempt to cross its tracks, and the mill company accordingly enjoined the Western railway in a petition for an order directing Mr. Truesdale to keep his hands off, and the petition has been granted.

Judge Smith, in his memorandum, holds that the crossing of the railway tracks in the way intended would not be a detriment to the interests of either road, and would, moreover, be a great public benefit. —*Minneapolis Tribune*.

A QUESTIONABLE PROCEEDING.

The State Dairy and Food Commissioner of Ohio has been made the defendant in a damage suit for \$50,000, which has been entered by a large firm of millers in Cohoes, N. Y. It is asserted that he caused to be published in a Cincinnati paper an alleged chemical analysis of a sample of their flour, in which it was stated that it contained 20 per cent of corn meal. The millers sell their product in Indiana, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, and declare that the publication seriously damaged their business.

If the commissioner exceeded his authority in this respect, the decision of the court ought to be a lesson to dairy commissioners in other States who make free use of firm names and trade-marks.

We should think that the proper course for these officials to pursue would be to prosecute manufacturers of or dealers in food which fail to meet the requirements of the law, instead of publishing to the world in advance the private and probably biased opinion of one individual who has been clothed with authority to inspect food products. A serious mistake may not only be made, but the snap judgment is unfair to the manufacturer or dealer, who should be heard before the one-sided cases are given to the public. The dairy and food commissioners do well enough when kept within bounds; they should be made to understand, however, that the appointment did not carry with it the power of judge and jury. *Shipping and Commercial List*.

THE GENERAL FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY,

CONTROLLING THE INVENTIONS AND APPARATUS PERTAINING TO

AUTOMATIC * SPRINKLERS

OF FREDERICK GRINNELL, WILLIAM NERACHER, JOHN HILL, WILLIAM KANE and others.

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News Notes.

GRAND HAVEN, Mich., wants a flouring mill.

WESLEY, Iowa, is soon to have a new flouring mill.

MINERVA, O., subscribed \$8,000 for a new flouring mill.

A MILL will be built at Dickson, Tenn., by McDaniel Bros.

B. B. CORNER is building a mill, 100x100 feet in size at Birmingham, Ala.

TWO new flouring mills are to be built at McPherson, Kansas, this spring.

J. P. QUIST has sold his interest in the mill at Winthrop, Minn., to C. J. Larson.

JOHN ESTENSON is going to build a flour mill at Cyrus, Minn., next summer.

THE project to build a farmers' mill at Brownsdale, Minn., is under consideration.

THERE is a possibility of Henderson, Minn., having another flour mill in the near future.

FROM La Centre, Wash., comes the report that citizens there are trying to put in a flour mill.

THE flouring mill of L. H. Bonnell at Barnesville, O., reported as damaged by fire, will be refitted.

TWO new flour mills are talked of in western Washington, one at Pullman and the other at Dayton.

THE loss on the National Milling Company's plant at Toledo, sprinkled, has been adjusted at \$3,600.

THE flouring mill of Geo. W. Mettler & Son, at Flat Rock, Mich., recently burned, will be rebuilt at once.

CHRISTMAN BROS. will build a new five story, brick, flouring mill at Bryan, O., as soon as spring opens.

THE flouring mill at Pepin, Wis., has been leased by N. B. Sedgwick and W. H. Sims for a term of 5 years.

HARRY HUMPHREYS and Marion Coiner have leased and will operate the Waynesboro mill at Basic City, Va.

PARTIES at Columbia, S. D., are thinking of purchasing and renovating the flour mill at that point with the intention of putting it in operation.

A MOVEMENT is on foot among the farmers in the vicinity of New Windsor, Ill., to build an elevator at that place.

THE farmers of Emmons, Minn., are interesting themselves in a project to build a flour mill at that place.

PARTIES at Athens, Mich., are raising a bonus of \$750 to start a flouring mill that has lain idle for a score of years.

THE Kalispell, Mont., flour mill contemplates the erection of an elevator as well as increased capacity of the mill.

A GENTLEMAN from Indiana, by the name of C. W. Hall, thinks of establishing a first class flouring mill at Lima, O.

M. E. LAGREE has nearly completed arrangements to build a flour mill at Hurley, S. D., of 35 barrels capacity.

EMIL UTZ has sold his milling plant, the Farmers' Exchange Mills at Topeka, Kas., and is now in the market for a mill.

WICHITA FALLS, Tex., is to have a new roller mill, the Victor Milling Co., capital \$30,000, being chartered to build the same.

JAMES H. MAJOR, of Sarnia, Ont., and D. W. Watson of Red Wing, Minn., have bought the John Hack mill at Red Wing.

THE Norfolk, Va., Milling Co., will increase its plant and enlarge its storage capacity to meet the growing demands of the trade.

H. C. HAYMAN & SON have erected and fitted up a roller mill at Van Buren, Ark. Mr. Link has also established a grist-mill there.

T. E. MILLER and others of Steamboat Springs, Colo., have incorporated the Steamboat Milling Co., to operate a mill in Routt Co., Colo.

THE St. Louis millers last year, produced 1,669,048 barrels of flour. St. Louis is the foremost flour-producing city in the winter-wheat belt.

IF the citizens at Bozeman, Mont., put up a bonus of \$25,000, the Des Moines (Ia.) Mfg. Co., offers to build a \$50,000 oat-meal mill at that place.

J. QUIRK & Co., millers at Montgomery, Minn., have made arrangements with the City Council to furnish the city with electric lights for five years.

THE partnership existing between John H. Ebeling and H. A. Straubel, at Green Bay, Wis., has been dissolved. Mr. Ebeling succeeding to the business.

THE Fisher Mill and Elevator Co., of Grand Forks, N. D., is to be incorporated as the Farmers' Milling Co. and the elevator business is to be discontinued.

THE Red Crown roller mills of Albany, Or., were incorporated on Feb. 26th with a capital stock of \$50,000 by John Isam, John R. Stockman and Chas. Pfeiffer.

THE stock for the organization of the mill company at Madison, Minn., has all been sold, articles of incorporation drawn up, and the company organized.

SHIPMAN, Ill., is to have a new flouring mill for which \$3,500 has already been subscribed. J. B. Blivens and Jas. Herndon of Whitehall, will build the mill.

THE Phoenix Grain Co., has recently been started at Union City, Tenn. The capital stock is \$25,000, and the plant turns out about three carloads of feed daily.

AN effort is being made at West Salem, Wis., to organize a stock company to rebuild and operate the Neshonoc Mill. The capital stock is proposed to be \$100,000.

A COMBINATION custom flour mill with a 200-bbl. capacity, and a steam saw mill with a capacity of 10,000 feet of lumber per day is to be erected at Shieldsville, Minn.

THE Sehrt & Patterson Milling Co. of Coffeenville, Kans., started their new mill, Monday, Feb. 28. The new plant has a daily capacity of 800 bls. and is one of the finest in the West.

MR. HAUCHENDORF of Pine Mills, Ia., is to receive a bonus from the citizens of Durant, Ia., for locating a mill there. The mill will be built soon, and is to be of 75-bbl. capacity.

THE engine in the grist-mill of of Joseph McCarty at Bloomfield, Ia., on Feb. 28, broke the governor, running away and tearing itself and the mill to pieces, fatally injuring Mr. McCarty.

WASHBURN & SON of Springfield, Ore., are making extensive improvements in their flouring mill, putting in latest improved machinery, etc. They are also putting in a 30-light dynamo to supply their mill with light.

It is reported that Kehler Bros. will erect a large grain elevator at Litchfield, Ill., soon. It is believed this will be the foundation or starting of a new mill talked of being erected there.

CITIZENS at Bowdle, S. D., are considering a proposition of W. McGlenn and J. H. McKeane, relative to building a flour mill at Bowdle. Subscriptions are being solicited to aid the project.

A COMPANY has been organized to put in a water-power flouring mill on Moses' Creek, near Waterville, Wash., with a daily capacity of 40 barrels. J. E. Hoppe is at the head of the company.

MEWING & BOHLANDER, whose mill burned Feb. 18th, will rebuild at once. They place their loss at \$12,000 with no insurance. Defective mason work in the boiler room was the cause of the fire.

F. E. CAWLEY and C. E. Hyde, owning mills at Little Falls, Red Lake Falls and Ellendale, Minn., were in Brainerd, Minn. recently, endeavoring to make arrangements with a view to putting up a mill there.

ARTICLES of incorporation of the Eagle Milling Co., at Dubuque, Ia., have been filed with the county recorder. The new company will buy and sell grain, and manufacture and sell flour and feed at the Eagle mill.

THE farmers of Mt. Vernon, Minn., are going to erect a farmers' elevator at Minneka, which will cost about \$3,000. Meetings were held at that place, and a committee of three was appointed to look over elevators in neighboring towns.

It is reported that Baker City, Or., will have a flour mill soon. It is the only city in the State that has 5,000 inhabitants that is without a mill. There was a good mill at that place three years ago, but it was destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt.

PARKERS PRAIRIE, Minn., is to have a flour mill. John Post has bought the large barn of John Murray and will remodel it for a flour mill. He has purchased the machinery for it and sent 20 teams after it so as to get it here while the sleighing is good.

THE progenators of the new mill to be erected at Tule Lake, Ore., are T. Martin and Frank Braden formerly millers at Ashland, Ore. The mill is to have a capacity of fifty barrels

CHAS. D. COX, Manager.

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daily, and to be completed by Sept. 1st. It will be known as the Klamath Falls Mill Co.

THE Wentworth Roller Mill and Creamery Co. was organized last week, at Wentworth, S. D., with a capital stock of \$10,000. The company have secured the old mill building, and they will build an addition to it for a creamery, so that the one power will run both.

THE flour mill committee at Tecumseh, Okla., has succeeded in raising the money asked for by the projectors of a flour mill at that place, and a committee has been appointed to close the contract, and as soon as that is done, the contract for the foundation will be let.

THE flouring mills at Avondale, Pa., have just ground an order for the Baltimore Hebrews. Before any wheat was put into the rollers the mill was thoroughly inspected by two rabbis, and a guard was left at the mill until the order was completed. The flour is to be used at the Passover.—*Milling.*

THE flour shed at Superior, Wis., will be an immense affair, a steel structure 1,000 feet in length and as wide as the dock will permit and have tracks and wharfage on both sides. The estimated cost of the superstructure is \$210,000. Such a warehouse equipped with the proper hoists and trimming apparatus, has storage room for 30 vessels.—*Milling.*

C. H. MEWING reports his flour mill at Mound City, S. D., in running order. On Monday the machinery was put in motion and flour sacked. The company starts business with an equipment capable of turning out 100 bbls. per day. Four men will be employed and they expect to run to their full capacity, turning out three grades of flour, besides shorts, bran, feed, cornmeal, buckwheat etc.

ABOUT one year ago, the Oakes, N. D., flouring mill, with a daily capacity of 200 barrels, was entirely destroyed by fire. Since that time several parties have canvassed the field to some extent, but owing to the extreme lightness of the money market nothing definite has been done. At present, however, there are several persons looking over the field with a view of building a first-class mill.

ANOTHER person, John R. Rapp, one of the successful bonanza farmers of Sargent County, is contemplating the erection of a mill at Oakes, S. D. He is at present negotiating for a site on the C. & N. W. Ry., and if it is secured he will begin the erection of a mill, which will

have a capacity of 75 to 100 barrels. The latest and most improved machinery will be put in, as well as steam heat and electric light.

THE plans of a Mr. Butler to establish a flouring mill at Eugene, Ore., have been abandoned, through the inability of arriving at satisfactory agreements with the owners of the water-power at that place. This is to be regretted, as Eugene needs a mill, and this was an excellent opportunity to get a good one. It is reported there are two other parties contemplating going there to erect a mill, one from South Dakota and the other from Michigan.

THE first mill-stone that ever ground flour out of wheat in the State of Washington will be an interesting exhibit at the Mid-winter Fair. It was originally used by the Revs. Whitman and Spaulding, the pioneer missionaries, at the old Whitman Mission, above Wallula, on the Columbia river. Rev. Mr. Whitman was massacred near Walla Walla in the early history of the territory. The stone was made out of common rock and was used many years.

MORITZ THOMPSON announces the intention of his company to build another mill in Spokane, Wash. Work will begin on the building as soon as the weather will permit. It will be brick, 40x100, and four stories high. They are now enlarging their present mill and it will continue with a double capacity. Part of this building will be used as an elevator and the rest will be used for the manufacture of all kinds of cereals—oat meal, pearl barley, hominy, buckwheat flour, corn meal, and all sorts of breakfast foods.

WARNING TO AMERICAN MILLERS.
 A special telegram to the *Chicago Weekly Journal* dated at Washington, Feb. 28, says: The United States Consul at Belfast, Ireland, reporting upon the American flour trade with that section, points to a serious danger arising from a conviction that the American standards are depreciating. He cites complaints that the American millers are sacrificing quality for quantity in their new patents. Indian wheat promises to make a formidable opponent to the American staple and it behooves American millers to keep up their standards to the highest point. There is also complaint that the flour is not properly sacked and is thus damaged. The Consul at Liverpool makes a similar complaint.

THE crop of Washington would have been an immense one this year if it could have been safely harvest-

ed. Washington farmers, however, do not know how to deal with rain at harvest time, and for that reason lost a large part of their crop. Much of it, in fact nearly all of it, was more or less damaged by rain. Some of it was completely spoiled and nearly 20,000 acres were never harvested at all. Had the farmers known how to save their crop in spite of the rain, shipments this year would, perhaps, have doubled those of any previous year. While the experience has been a costly one to the farmers, it has taught them, partially at least how to manage better, and if we ever have another rainy harvest, which we may have, perhaps they will know better how to take care of their crop. Their loss by the rain this year is estimated at least \$1,500,000, notwithstanding the fact that wheat is lower now than ever before within the memory of any one now living.—*Tacoma Ledger.*

A NEW 1,000-BARREL MILL.—The Indian Rice Mfg. Co., of Hamburg, Ia., has closed negotiations with the Commercial Club and the M. K. & T. Trust Co., of Kansas City, which provides for the removal of the Manufacturing Co. from Hamburg to Kansas City. No machinery will be moved, but a new 1,000-bbl. mill will be built here at once. The contract for the building has been let and work will be commenced upon it at once. The change from Hamburg to Kansas City was caused by the demand for better shipping facilities. At Hamburg the company grinds about 600 barrels of white corn daily, but could not profitably increase the capacity there on account of the restricted facilities for reaching the markets in general. Several cities wanted the plant, and offered big inducements, but Kansas City won easily. The contract for the machinery has not yet been closed, but several estimates have been furnished the company by manufacturers of mill machinery. Vice-President Watkins, who is a milling engineer, will make the flow sheets for the new mill, and superintend the construction. This company will manufacture white-corn goods exclusively. Its officers are: H. A. Judd, president; J. B. Watkins, vice-president; George M. Berkley, secretary.—*Modern Miller.*

Mill Fires.

HENRY STOVER's grist-mill at Carnersville, Pa., burned Feb. 18. Loss about \$6,000.

THE flour mill of John Heath at Wardsville, Ont., was destroyed Feb. 14th. Loss \$4,000; no insurance.

THE grain elevator owned by John W. Stauffer, at Laura, O., burned Feb. 25; 1,000 bushels of grain were consumed.

AT Masonville, N. J., March 3d, Wm. Garrigue's steam flour and feed mill burned. Loss \$10,000; insurance \$3,000.

FIRE on Feb. 22, damaged the machinery and building of the National Milling Co. at Toledo, Ohio, to the extent of \$7,000.

THE Farmers' Elevator at Elbow Lake, Minn., burned March 6. Loss \$3,200; insurance \$2,200. 2,500 bushels of wheat were burned. The fire was of incendiary origin.

THE mill at Aberdeen, S. D., narrowly missed destruction by fire, Feb. 20th. Fire was discovered on the fourth floor, but was extinguished before much damage resulted.

THE George Tileston Mill Company's flouring mill, at Osakis, Minn., burned March 15th. Loss, \$20,000; insurance, \$17,000, placed mostly in the Millers' Mutual companies.

THE brick flouring mill of W. H. Turner, at Ijamsville, Md., burned Feb. 22, together with 4,000 bushels of wheat, and a large quantity of corn and flour. Loss \$15,000; insurance \$9,000.

THE Crown Elevator at Brown's Valley, Minn., owned by P. W. Dezell, was completely destroyed by fire March 2d, together with its contents. Loss \$3,500; insurance \$1,500. There were about 1,000 bushels of wheat in the building at the time.

KLSUCK BROS.' flour mill, elevator, warehouses and cooperage burned Feb. 27, at Oakland, Ind. Loss \$60,000; partially insured. Five residences were also destroyed before the fire was put under control, swelling the loss to \$75,000. 10,000 barrels of flour and 25,000 bushels of wheat were destroyed.

THE roller mill of Whitmore Bros. at Montevideo, Minn., was discovered to be on fire on the evening of March 8th. It was saved with great difficulty, but not before damage to the amount of \$3,000 was incurred. The fire originated among machinery in the basement. Loss fully covered by insurance.

THE new roller mills at Mound City, S. D., the property of Mewing & Bohlander of Eureka, were burned to the ground on Feb. 20. The total loss, including about 4,000 bushels of wheat destroyed, will be about \$14,000. No insurance. The mill had been running just one week. The cause of the fire is unknown.

THE BAKERS AND CONFECTIONERS EXHIBITION.

The Bakers and Confectioners International Exhibition and Market which was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London last November, was from an Exhibitors point of view a great success. The attendance of buyers was phenomenal and business resulted to such an extent that all last years Exhibitors have decided to secure space at the Exhibition to be held this year from Sept. 22nd to 29th.

All the trade Associations will hold meetings during this Exhibition and the English Railway Cos. will afford special facilities to visitors desirous of going to London.

It is to be hoped that the American Confectioners will make a Show worthy of the excellent produce they turn out, the demand for which is on the increase in the United Kingdom.

SOUTHERN FLOUR MILL BUILDING.

The Chattanooga Tradesman notes considerable activity in the building of southern flour mills and says: "Though last year was one of extreme dullness in general trade, the number of new mills erected in the south makes a long list, and there are a great number of mills projected that will be built this year. If, now, the farmers of the south would raise the grain, or even the greater part of it, for these mills to consume, it would be a 'bigger thing' than the mills themselves. There are plenty of good wheat lands in the central southern states, not one acre in ten of which has ever been intelligently utilized for that crop."

The telegraph on March 6 was responsible for the following from Washington: "Chairman Hatch stated that he considered legitimate speculation the life-blood of trade, but thought the system of 'puts and calls' or 'options' a poison and detrimental to business interests." If it is only bucket-shops and 'put and call' contracts Congressman Hatch et. al. are after, they have not gone to work the right way. The police law, or an adequate one where none such exists, will take care of the bucket-shops—if the police can be made to enforce it. Personal or private 'put and call' contracts are about as amenable to law as private betting. Can that be stopped? None of the regular commercial exchanges recognizes put and call contracts. Evidently all that worries such as Congressman Hatch is their inability to understand how a transaction can be legitimate, or otherwise than a gambling transaction,

unless the seller carries what he sells to the buyer in every instance and the latter takes it and pays for it. The legitimacy of purchases for investment, the economic function of the same and kindred topics, are subjects on which Congressman Hatch and others are, unfortunately for us all, insisting that they be educated at the expense of the time, patience and treasury of the public.

OTTO H. BOYSEN, of North Dakota, the U. S. consul at Gothenburg, Sweden, contributes an interesting communication to the state department upon the subject of the extension of the American flour and wheat trade.

He says the people of Sweden prefer rye bread to wheat and until the famine in Russia, very little wheat bread was eaten except by the wealthy classes.

After showing what limited trade there is between the U. S. and Sweden, he speaks as follows on the obstacles to trade—

"The absence of direct and regular steamship communication between the United States and this port has, in my opinion, been one obstacle in the way of the extension of the trade in American wheat and flour into Sweden, as the transshipment agent's charges, etc., have a tendency to increase the price of products. Another impediment is, the American exporters have no representatives here. The success of all efforts to increase this trade with Sweden will nevertheless depend on the rye crops in Russia and the prices there."

Almost the same kind of a story is written by G. Gade, U. S. consul at Christiania, Norway. He speaks of the obstacles in the way of extending the American flour trade abroad as follows—

"One of the principal disadvantages under which the American flour trade suffers is the long irregular transport from the mills to the port of shipment in the United States. The flour shipped to this country from and inland town in the United States is always forwarded on a 'through bill of lading,' acceptors of which are obliged to take all risks. The railway companies are not bound by the bill of lading to send the flour by any particular train or vessel, and from two to three months often elapse before the Norwegian importers receive the flour, though their orders are always transmitted by cable to the mills.

SEND for a copy of The American Flour Mill and Grain Directory for 1892-3. Address, THE UNITED STATES MILLER, 68C Mitchell Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.

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WIDOWS of such soldiers and sailors are entitled (if not remarried) whether soldier's death was due to army service or not, if now dependent upon their own labor for support. Widows not dependent upon their own labor are entitled if the soldier's death was due to service.

CHILDREN are entitled (if under sixteen years) in almost all cases where there was no widow, or she has since died or remarried.

PARENTS are entitled if soldier left neither widow nor child, provided soldier died in service, or from effects of service, and they are now dependent upon their own labor for support. It makes no difference whether soldier served or died in late war or in regular army or navy.

Soldiers of the late war, pensioned under one law, may apply for higher rates under other laws, without losing any rights.

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Old claims completed and settlement obtained, whether pension has been granted under later laws or not.

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I am not (in your time) an old subscriber, though I did take The R. N. Y. many years ago, when it cost \$3.50 to get it; but I find it a much better paper now than then. So long as I am able to feed a cow or a hen, I don't propose to be without it.

Holland, Mich.

FRANC M. HARVEY.

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MILWAUKEE, MARCH, 1894.

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their advertisement was seen in the
UNITED STATES MILLER. You will
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the advertisers.

Editorial.

We are in receipt of an ad-
vance copy of the Pros-
pectus and Form of Application
for space of the Confectioners',
Bakers', Grocers' and Allied
Trades Exhibition, to be held in
the Royal Agricultural Hall,
London, September 22nd to 29th,
giving general Rules, Regula-
tions and Conditions, also
showing diagram of floor space
available. Millers desiring to
exhibit their goods should pro-
cure a copy which can be had
by addressing The Managing
Director, Confectioners' Ex-
hibition, offices 27 Leadenhall
Street, Rooms 57 and 58, Lon-
don, E. C.

IN another column we print a
communication from a mil-
ler of Cleveland, Ohio, which
brings up a point in regard to
the rehearing in the suit of the
Jonathan Mills Mfg Co. vs. M.
C. Whitehurst & Sons, (reported
in our last issue), worthy of con-
sideration. The trial of this
suit, as every one knows, was
conducted in a very slipshod
manner, so far as the defense
was concerned, and the judg-
ment found for the plaintiff
was practically the same as if it
had been by default. When the
Indiana and Ohio millers, out-
side of the National Associa-
tion, came to a realization that
they were confronted by a
rather serious patent case, and
commenced to look into the

subject a little more closely,
the fault in the Mills Co. title,
of course, was soon discovered,
and it was made the basis of a
motion for rehearing, which
Judge Sage readily granted.
Now the party holding the valid
title to this patent is pretty sure
to be dug up, and he is very
liable to desist from his attitude
of smiling repose, while the
other fellow establishes his
rights, and get to work in
earnest. Judge Sage has given
his opinion as to the merits of
the patent and Mr. Quiet-man
may have a "snap." When
this litigation was first talked
of, The Millers' National Asso-
ciation at once interested itself
in the matter, employed one of
the foremost patent attorneys of
the United States to carefully
investigate it, and took steps,
which, we understand, will
afford the same protection for
its members in this case that it
always has provided in the
past.

THE MILLER OF 1893.

THE miller doing business
the past year, has been, and
continues to be, between the
"Devil and the deep blue sea,"
and apparently the future holds
out no promise of any change
for the better.—If he had the
"pluck," or, perhaps, the sagac-
ity (?) to meet all offers the
buyer saw fit to make, he was
indeed fortunate, although it
may have seemed like chal-
lenging the Fates, to persist-
ently meet the continued de-
cline in prices even after "low
water mark" had been passed,
but the buyer, continued to
find millers ready sellers and if
the buyer even, entertained any
bullish ideas of prices he very
soon found out his mistake, until
now the buyer is as immovable
as a sphinx buying only as his
trade demands. Now the result
of this long continued dullness
must eventually show a very
depleted amount of stock in the
hands of dealers throughout
the country, that will have to
be, and will be augmented just
as soon as confidence is restored
to that extent, that the buyer
feels assured that prices have
seen the lowest point. In view
of the records of other years,
that time may not be far distant.
A wonderful March, or three
quarters of it like June, has led,
nearly every one in the trade
to look for an early opening of
spring, which would indicate

early sowing of wheat, and con-
sequently a very favorable out-
look for a large crop in 1894,
and as a result continued de-
pression in prices, and a dull-
ness in trade, that makes the
miller heart sick, and his bank
account desperately thin. It
has always been said, "there is
no money for any one in low
prices," consequently a brisk
trade at higher or "cost of pro-
duction" price is to be desired,
how or when this desideratum is
to be reached no one has as yet
been able to foretell. It is how-
ever, very evident with the
usual crop scares, such as
"freezing out," "chinchbug,"
"drought," or "too much wet," we
are liable to get something that
may give prices a sharp turn
upward when least expected.
Much has been said about feed-
ing wheat to hogs during the
prevailing low prices, and we
are well satisfied from all we can
learn, that this has been going
on to a much larger extent
than the most sanguine realize,
and will cut quite a figure in
the invisible supply, wheat be-
ing in its entirety nearly a per-
fect food for man and beast,
the results from feeding it to
stock has proven a surprise to
most feeders, who have tried it
and consequently the forehand-
ed farmer who is not obliged
to sell his wheat to get money
for pressing needs, will put his
wheat into pork rather than
take the low prices now ruling.
Taking all these effects into
consideration, we believe, that
the near future has better de-
mand and better prices. And
the miller that carries the load
from this on, will get his re-
ward.

STILL THEY COME.

AND now it is the irrepressible
Detwiler that comes to
the front with his claims on a
flour bolting process. Within
the past ten days or two weeks
millers in Illinois and Min-
nesota have been favored by
the Attorney of Detwiler to
"walk up to the Captains office
and settle," claiming a royalty
for past and future use of \$75.00
per mill. He makes a flat rate
for great and small mills. Mr.
Detwiler's invitation reads as
follows:

PHILADELPHIA, March 8, 1894.

DEAR SIR:—Your attention is
called to the annexed copy of the
John S. Detwiler United States
Letters Patent No. 193,933, for Im-

provements in Apparatus for Bolt-
ing and Rebolting Flour. I am in-
formed you are employing appa-
ratus in your mill in infringement of
the claims of the said patent, and
therefore, you are hereby notified
to forthwith desist from such in-
fringement, and to pay the damages
which my client has sustained
through your unauthorized manu-
facture, use or sale of the said
patented invention without obtain-
ing a license right so to do from
the owner of the said patent. Un-
less a license is had, at a cost to
you of seventy-five dollars, within
thirty days from the date hereof,
suit will be instituted to enforce
respect of my client's rights under
the said patent.

The above sum paid for a license
will cover past infringement and
royalties due, and entitle you to a
shop-right to use the invention
during the remainder of the term
of the said patent.

Hoping to hear from you in re-
gard to this matter without the
necessity of a suit to enforce respect
of my client's rights in and under
his said patent. I am,

Yours truly,

J. WALTER DOUGLASS,
Attorney for John S. Detwiler.

This claim reads:

1. A series of bolting-reels and
screw conveyers, combined with a
system of inclined bottoms or
chutes, provided with valves and
spouts, whereby the middlings or
offal from each reel may be carried
from the machine separately, or
may be spouted off collectively from
all the reels at the end of the ma-
chine, substantially in the manner
and for the purpose herein specified.

2. In a bolting-machine, the par-
tition c, perforated for the ends of
the reels, combined with inclined
bottoms or chutes D, provided with
spouts E and valves e, substantially
as specified.

In testimony that I claim the fore-
going as my invention, I hereto
subscribe my name this 21st day of
March, A. D. 1877.

JOHN S. DETWILER.

Now any old miller will recog-
nize at once the reel of ancient
days and in use before Detwiler
was born, — and which has not
been used for many years back,
— in fact it is on a par with his
gradual reduction system which
was "knocked out" by the court
within a year, — and this last
move of Mr. Detwiler will share
the same fate when it comes to
a contest.

THE officially estimated
wheat yield in Great Britain
last year was 25.95 bushels to
the acre, against 26.38 bushels
in 1892. This shows a decline
of about 4 bushels per acre, or
13.3 per cent, as compared with
the average yield previous to
to the great agricultural de-
pression.

Correspondence.

[The following letters are all from our own special correspondents, and reflect their views and the views of the trade in the location from which they write.]

NEW YORK.

Improvement in the Breadstuff's Situation.—
The Worst of the Depression Apparently Ended, yet no Prospect of any Boom.—Too Much Wheat and Flour Still.—The Condition of Contract Wheat. The City Mills Cannot Use It. They are Buying in the Interior.—Trouble for our Wheat Mixers.—The Flour Market News.

THE past month has shown a slow, but for the most part, steady improvement in the situation of the breadstuffs markets of this country and Europe. The burden of supplies that has pressed continuously upon the importing countries of the world for months, has at last begun to let up, and stocks on the other side, as well as here, have begun to show a considerable and steady decrease. The decrease in Liverpool on the 1st of the month, both in wheat and flour, was marked, compared alike with last month and last year. It was a surprise to the trade here and there, which had seen the mountain of supplies piling up until they had apparently forgotten that it ever had been reduced in former years. This fact was sufficient to awaken the trade to the possibility that all this over-supply might be actually needed before another harvest and, naturally, demand has been gradually widening of late, both for wheat and flour, though it has not yet become active, or general, or continuous.

ARGENTINE, INDIA AND RUSSIA, however, are still lying across the path of the bulls, who have been looking long and waiting peacefully for the short crop boom, in which some still believe, before another crop is available here. The crop of the farmer is still weighing on the markets of Europe, while the new crop of India will become available in May and June, which is only three months away. Meantime, Russia will come in with a big balance of her old crop to market. If we had the markets of Europe to ourselves, as once, we could order a boom in wheat right away. But the United States is a secondary factor in the European supply, as compared with other exporting countries combined; and, since this has been so, we simply supply the shortage of Europe—after—all these competing countries have sold their surplus. For, no matter what the price here, they will all undersell us as long as they have any to sell; and equally Europe will buy elsewhere, as long as she can. Where she can buy with the cheap silver we supply them or pay for their wheat

in goods that are not excluded by a high tariff, as they are from this country. These two causes are responsible for keeping this country in the secondary position in the wheat trade of Europe, as "corners" in our markets were the original cause of driving her trade away and compelling her to develop her colonies by establishing steamship lines between them and their mother countries, and by building railroads to their great interior wheat areas, that had hitherto been unavailable.

REDUCED PRODUCTION.

Hence, while the signs are many, that we have passed the worst of the depression on this crop, not only, but for the near future, there are no possibilities in sight of anything to cause a boom in prices for this great world's food staple. We may have crop damage here or abroad yet, though the season is too far advanced, and wheat has wintered too well on both sides of the Atlantic, to leave much prospect of damage to the winter crops of the Northern hemisphere. Spring wheat may, however, give the bulls a show. But the area is likely to be less of the latter, as it is of the former, for the coming crop; and the era of over-production is undoubtedly past for the next few years, or until present conditions are changed. For American farmers certainly cannot continue to compete with other nations of the world in its markets at the present basis of values. Besides, the stocks are still too large, notwithstanding they have begun to decrease, to look for any scarcity on this crop year, for there is still too much wheat and flour in sight for any radical advance in the next few months, barring, of course, crop damage, yet possible. Hence, while our farmers and millers may be slowly emerging from the woods at last, they are not going to get out into the sunshine of prosperous times, such as they saw before this world-wide depression in the breadstuffs trade set in, some five years ago, during the balance of this crop year, unless we see a crop shortage somewhere. But their outlook for the coming crop is more hopeful, in that it will not be so unprofitable as the past year has been.

But there is now another big bear over the market, in the condition of much of the wheat that has been held here in store the past year, as the result of the attempt to corner May in Chicago last year. There is a large percentage of the No. 2 wheat in New York that has been held over from the crop of 1892, that, to the least is in doubtful condition from weevil, which the winter has been

too mild to kill. The stores were full of weevil, generally, last summer and fall, and they are there yet, or, rotten in the wheat in them. Warehousemen here have been compelled to "screen and blow" a good deal of their stock all winter; and, occasionally, to ship out some, to keep it from going out of condition, until the past month we have had an after-panic in our wheat market, on the contrary over the actual condition of the bulk of the contract grade, since the big liquidation of the capitalists and investors of New York and Chicago in both markets, occurring in January and February. This after-panic was started by the rejection of No. 2 Red wheat by one city mill, on the ground that wheat they had been compelled to take on contract, made "unsound flour with a smell" that had caused them much trouble, not only with their city trade in Patents, but more with their West India trade where the flour went actually unsound under the effects of warm climates. Indeed, it is reported in the trade, that it was from the latter source that the city mills first found out that the wheat they were using was not good; and are said to have sold out a lot of this flour before they found it out, and are having no end of trouble from it. Yet the grain committee decided that the wheat they complained of was up to standard and obliged them to take it, as the "Carriers" and "Mixers" of wheat were interested on the other side of the question and control the grain committee, which is charged with forming the mixers who adulterate the good wheat that comes here with the poor and get the standard of contract fixed so low as to enable them to make a profit from mixing as well as by carrying the wheat. Hence the latter became very much exercised over the reports of bad condition of our wheat and certified in the name of the grain committee that it was all right and as good as usual, while threatening to discipline members who circulated reports to the contrary, but the result has been a partial boycott on No. 2 Red and New York, as our city mills have since sent their agents into the winter wheat states to buy up unmixed wheat, while they are reported to have bought 1,000,000 bushels No. 1 Northern and No. 1 Hard Spring in the Northwest early in the month to come forward on the opening of navigation. These reports have already had their effect abroad and many cable orders now come to New York exporters for "No. 2 Red Ex-New York" or for "I. P. Wheat," which means identity preserved. While there has been no complaint yet of the

Chicago grade for the simple reason it is not coming here.

THE CHANGES IN FLOUR

have not been radical nor the trade generally active, yet there has been an improvement in the month of 10@15c on Spring Patents and Bakers' Extras over the previous bottom prices, and in some cases 25c advance has been asked, but not paid, and is not now insisted upon, as the trade bought quite freely of both these grades on the spot and to arrive soon at \$3.65 up to \$3.90 chiefly and \$2.50@2.60 for strong clears, which have been taken by our city mills to mix with the flour made out of the No. 2 Red wheat referred to above. There were some fair-sized sales of Patents early in the month at \$3.50, to arrive on opening of navigation by lake and rail; but for a few days only, since when that has been bid and \$3.75 asked for Standard Minneapolis, Superior and Duluth brands. This is based upon expected lower freights which makes that price the same as spot.

Winter flours have shared in the improved demand, but not in prices, as they have been more steady at old prices to 10c better, though the latter has been lost at the close, on Straights at \$3.00 generally and \$3.25@3.50 for Patents, but Winters under \$2.50 have been firmer and scarce of late, since mills have been running them into feed which paid better at \$1.00 per 100 lbs. for all kinds at which our city mills have kept sold ahead all the month, but their flours have dragged, both for home and export grades. Low grade Springs have not come here.

Exporters have done little in anything, though at the close they are taking more Winter Straights for the continent and Bakers' Extras for England, together with low feeding grades of Springs, direct through from the mills, while Rye flour has moved more freely, but at easier prices, \$2.75@2.90 being the price for standard to fancy brands, and \$2.60 for ordinary. The Buckwheat flour trade is over and not much left, which is held at \$2.25 for pure.

NEW YORK, March 6th.

BUFFALO.

THE stock of flour in warehouses here, brought down by lake, foots up to 225,000 bbls. to date. This is a fair reduction from nearly half a million barrels at the close of navigation last year, still it seems to stick at that figure a little more tenaciously than local agents wish.

While certain Buffalo millers, who coddle to the Boston trade, talk decidedly bullish on wheat and maintain that the stock of Duluth wheat here is

not half sufficient to meet the wants of the trade in this section, they are quietly unloading some of their holdings through commission men in this market. It looks queer again when it is known that other Buffalo millers are the buyers of this same wheat. A clear case of coppering. Buffalo millers move in mysterious ways their wonders to perform. But this wheat is cheap enough at 70 cents, no matter whether New York may be selling the same grade at 2 or 3 cents less. It paid some years ago to re-ship wheat from New York to Buffalo by canal, and there is no man on earth to-day able to foretell what the present unnatural conditions of the market may bring forth. No. 1 hard to-day is just 10 cents higher than last year and flour \$1.00 per barrel cheaper. There is something wrong, and as this has been going on for a good long time, the hour of settlement must be near at hand. Urban's mill is running again on full time, which means always 24 hours per day when stocks are low.

There are several new Richmonds in the field, in the persons of representatives of western millers, seeking to introduce their brands to our local trade, and judging from advertisements for agents and engineers through other channels for same, a number of western millers must think this a field ripe for the fool sickle. Come along gentlemen; the more the merrier. But if there is any harder territory for the average western miller than Buffalo and vicinity to work, the writer does not know of it.

A New York City commission house having the agency of a Lake Superior mill for New York State, put an agent here for several days, who expatiated upon the merits of their wonderful brand, and the demerits of all others as compared with his world-renowned forty-loaves-to-the-barrel-more-than-any-other-flour. It was a maximum of effort and met with a minimum of success, as he did not succeed in selling as much flour as he consumed during his stay with us. Yet we learn his New York principals are making their competitors green with envy over their tales of thousands of barrels placed in the trade at Buffalo, thus inciting others to take a crack at the most bedridden market in New York State. Better stick to the truth Mister Isaacs.

Feed is helping out some just now. The demand for February has been decidedly active and prices have advanced \$1.25 per ton on bran, and about 75c on middlings. Coarse winter bran sold rapidly at \$17.75 sacked and spring at \$17.25@17.50; while fine white

middlings brought only the same figures. The stuff is scarce and inquiries becoming more urgent every day which goes to show that there are no stocks on hand.

The recent reduction of one cent per loaf in the price of bread is causing no end of trouble. There was no money in the business as at present conducted in this city before the decline and now that trade has fallen off nearly 50 per cent, instead of increasing. As was expected, those who favored the drop are catching hell. It is the bakers supplying the poorer sections of the city who are complaining the loudest.

The Roberts mill at Warsaw, with a capacity of 150 bbls. will be ready to work March 1st.

The annual meeting of the Oakfield Fertilizer Co., was held on the 22nd ult. Mr. F. J. Henry, who has been president of the company since its organization, having determined to give more attention to his milling business and his duties as chaplain of the Cereal Brain Food Fishing Club, resigned the presidency of the Fertilizer Co. in favor of Mr. Jacob Davis. Mr. H. J. Harvey, also declined re-election as secretary. Mr. Andrew Kraus being chosen to that office. Mr. George Sandrock was again made treasurer and Mr. Phillip Houck, the vestor of the flour trade, a trustee.

Mr. Henry retires with flying colors, the company being on a paying basis and the stock commanding a handsome premium as the result of his able management. There is some quiet talk of his being presented with a service of plate as a recognition of appreciation by the stock holders.

The Rochester wheat rate from Buffalo, which was advanced from 3 to 4 cents per 100 lbs. was dropped again at the close of February. It is said that the advance was never paid by Rochester millers.

Major John G. Heindol, who has hitherto been a strong protectionist, has lately gotten new light on the subject and now says the McKinley tariff went to extremes. The Wilson bill suits him much better. Now for instance the Major would like to see champagne, swiss cheese and Holland herring put on the free list.

The *New York Times* prints an article against the Buffalo elevator transfer system, overcharges, etc. This was inspired by our old and highly respected Capt. De Puy, the greatest living representative of the genus canaler, or perhaps that fat-witted brewer's horse, his lieutenant. While there is no sense in denying that elevators have paid fairly well the past two years, there is the uncertain side of this question to be con-

sidered. There are elevators for sale here at very low prices and the idea of the state going into the grain handling business is simply the gabble of a few canal cranks.

It may be possible that the roads which carried flour by lake have allowed owners to store in ware-houses here free of charge, but not at all probable. At all events it is costing the millers something, as there is an earnest desire on their part to get rid of some of it. Price seems to be no object to them, for a choice lot of patents was offered in this market at a figure 40 cents under regular quotations. It was too cheap, and at last accounts was still going a-begging. This looks tough on the miller.

But this brings us back to the great flour store-house project or combination-elevator and flour house, announced with such a flourish of wind instruments through a local paper in which one of the prime movers has a "say." In the light of past experiences does it look as if Buffalo needed a "gigantic" store-house for flour? Perhaps it does in the opinion of those who would like to build one, but the roads contracting this flour for eastern shipment will make such an enterprise decidedly expensive in the end.

Canal freights for the opening have declined from 5 cents on wheat bid for boat, to 4½ cents and no takers. This sudden downfall was caused by a break in rail rates, the strong combination between the trunk lines from Buffalo and Erie going to pieces last week. Still some of our best informed shippers maintain there is no war on, and that the roads have only taken a slice to keep them busy in the spring at this end. The pool is as solid as ever, and the canal will get a fair rate next season.

Secretary Cook of the elevating association has returned from Bermuda. From his appearance it is evident that the trip did not agree with him to any appreciable extent. And to hear him talk of the delights and pleasures of that voyage! why any Bermuda passenger agent would give him a dozen dead-head tickets to keep his mouth shut.

Cornmeal Murphy has at last been recalled and admits that his "philanthropic" efforts to force the German people to eat cattle food is a flat failure. Famine might aid the doughty colonel, if there was nothing else to eat, but corn-meal would be the last course in a German bill of fare. It is also stated that the wealthy classes demand the choicest of wheat flour when they want any, but a little of that goes a long way when rye bread is good.

This report will interest many millers immensely, and particularly Mr. George Urban, Jr., who said five years ago that it was damfoolish to try to change a German's palate. You might do it in an individual, but the masses will stick to something solid, which lays in their stomachs for more than an hour or two. Hurrah for rye bread, sourkrout and the best beverage made for man—lager beer.

Lieutenant Rodebaugh is convalescent after his defeat at the Merchants' Exchange election.

An attempt was made by the Trustees of the Exchange to get some of the influential members on the Transportation Committee, but, without success. While not wishing to reflect on those in whose hands the matter of freight discrimination is placed, it looks as if there was something wrong when these gentlemen refuse to serve and leave the matter to those who can hardly be expected to accomplish much with the powers that be. Evidently some people know how to get what they want, while others have yet to learn the ropes and are not apt pupils.

Mr. George Sandrock has dropped politics for the present and is running his bank, like old Dorsheimer kept hotel.

Genial Joe Henry and his bosom friend, Alex Mann, have recently developed a great interest in that portion of the country lying along the Whites Corners road, and in the vicinity of West Seneca. What the attraction is, is a mystery to their friends. They have put Ed. Baugasser on their trail and a thorough investigation is assured. Further particulars in our next.

The Hon. Bertrand Chaffee, of Springfield, this county, having amassed a competency in the milling business, signifies his intention of retiring and make room for some one else to act as philanthropist-general to the dairy farmers of the town of Concord.

Mr. Horace J. Harvey, in addition to his many other business interests, is now acting as agent for the sale and leasing of country mill property. Anything in this line placed in Mr. Harvey's hands will have prompt and reliable attention.

DULUTH.

WITH the advance in the price of wheat on the first of the month, flour and mill stuffs, generally, looked up a point or two, and millers set their ears forward for further bull news, but it did not come to any permanent or great extent at least, and after the little flurry of orders consequent on the wheat market, trade eased off to former apathetic condi-

tions. But few contracts were closed, as buyers seemed to be suspicious of the good faith of the rising market, and subsequent conditions showed their guess was about right—the advance was a mere puff in the dead calm that has settled our trade in all departments and in all places. And this state of affairs is still prevailing notwithstanding the reduction, in freight rates to the sea board as announced by the railroads, on flour. This reduction amounts to 10 cents a barrel, and as pronounced as it is, it has led to no activity in shipments. This is accounted for, however, as it is currently reported, by the fact that throughout the winter millers have been given the present rate, on the quiet, in order to induce them to do anything at all. Since the reduction has been announced no mills have resumed, and there will probably be no extra grinding on that account unless rates are driven down still considerably lower, and that at present does not seem probable until the rail transportation lines are forced to make further concessions by water competition. What little flour trade there has been during the past few weeks has come in a lifeless sort of way which is more dispiriting than an indication of better times. But little demand has been shown from any source—from the corner grocery shop here in Duluth, to the great supply centres of the world. Orders have been small, where made at all and come as matters of necessity when the bottom of the home or storage flour barrel begins to show itself. Former car-load customers have been sending in orders for a few barrels to the jobbers, and the home consumption as supplied by the general retailer has been greatly curtailed. Less patent flour is finding its way to the bake ovens and more of other flours and the poorer qualities of wheat flour—and that is all a safe and sure token of universally hard times.

The jump in wheat looked much like the genuine, bull turn of affairs but so far the bears are doing business as cheerfully as usual. The feature of the rise was the strength of the Duluth market in comparison with other markets of the world. Duluth May wheat commanded a premium of from $\frac{1}{2}$ c to $\frac{3}{4}$ c over Chicago May and for the first time in nearly two years Chicago wheat sold at a discount from grain in this market. But little cash wheat is being offered, although the mills are able to pick up all they require. Most of the wheat bought for milling purposes is purchased "to arrive" and at $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ c under May price. Receipts continue to be large and are considerably in

excess of the receipts a year ago at this time. At the close of business on the Board Saturday there was no change in the price of cash wheat from the opening, but the figure displayed on the bulletins was so low that it looked almost vulgar to the bulls, being nearly at the old low water mark. On Monday of this week local stocks showed an increase of about 225,000 bushels for the week. The receipts were 330,000 bushels, shipments 20,000 and the mills took 85,000 bushels. The showing in detail was as follows:

No. 1 Hard wheat.....	Bushels
No. 1 Northern wheat.....	5,358,147
No. 2 Northern wheat.....	4,703,650
No. 3 Spring wheat.....	339,508
No. 4 Spring wheat.....	23,394
No. 5 Spring wheat.....	3,311
Rejected and Condemned wheat.....	12,440
Special bin wheat.....	251,762
Total wheat in store.....	10,750,232
Wheat afloat in harbor.....	204,907
Aggregate.....	10,955,139
Increase for the week.....	221,520
Amount of wheat in store and afloat corresponding date last year.....	10,600,834
Increase for the week last year.....	14,159
Corn in store.....	175,895
Oats in store.....	17,186
Decrease of oats.....	2,000
Rye in store.....	31,535
Barley in store.....	20,580
Decrease of barley.....	1,576
Flax seed in store.....	54,975

The outlook for lake business aside from the flour and grain trade is not very encouraging to vessel owners. It is generally understood that all the Mesaba iron ore mines are under the control of John D. Rockefeller, but just what Mr. Rockefeller's plan of operations is, has not been announced, and whether there will be much ore carrying or very little is the perplexing question. The probability is that he will be guided by the consumption and demand as other people are. If the mills throughout the country start up and business generally revives the lake fleet will be busy—otherwise it will not. From here a number of charters have been made for wheat cargoes, on the opening, to Buffalo, at $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents a bushel. Contracts have been made for from a million and a half to two million bushels of wheat on the opening of navigation. Considerable of this wheat is taken by the whalebacks. The flour and grain trade, as well as the general package trade between Duluth and Buffalo is expected to be as strong as usual this spring, indeed throughout the season, if not better than last year. The Emily P. Weed, W. H. Gratwick No. 2; W. H. Gilbert and Livingstone have been chartered by the Western Transit Co. for the season to carry flour and freight. The mammoth steamer, Centurion, has been chartered for the season by the Anchor line to run in the flour and general trade. The outlook, so far, appears to be better from the head of the lakes than from Lake Michigan points, with the iron ore business still an uncertain quantity. Captain

McDougall, however, is not very enthusiastic over the prospects for the year. Returning from the east a few days ago, he said: "I found a continued cry of hard times, but still money can be had where the security is gilt-edged. It is a kind of waiting game now the country is waiting the action of congress as to the tariff. When that question is definitely settled there will be a resumption of trade. Our shipyard will do some work, but not much this season. It's going to be pretty squally on the lakes this year and construction will go slow until the financial clouds roll by. As an indication of the times it is but necessary to look at the number of traveling men, or drummers abroad. I am informed that there are 260,000 of them in the country and that less than 25 per cent of them are now out, and that many of these are 'chasing lame ducks'. These are the chaps that furnish the best trade pulse in this country.

A few days after the Board of Trade building was destroyed by fire, in which all the documents, contracts, figures and files pertaining to the Board were burned, the directors held a meeting and accepted the resignation of Col. George E. Welles, the long time secretary and elected Frank E. Wyman to the responsible position. No announcement was made of the retirement of Col. Welles further than that it was on account of his failing health, but it is admitted by all that it was a grievous oversight to allow valuable papers to be carelessly strewn about an office when they ought to have been locked up in a vault provided for that purpose. However that may be the choice of a successor was an excellent one. Mr. Wyman is a young man and a trained newspaper worker, especially conversant with grain and flour matters at the head of the lakes. He had also attended to the duties of the secretary in the absence of Col. Welles and is thoroughly qualified for the position. But few Boards in the country are of more importance in grain handling than the Duluth Board, and as a consequence a great deal of work and responsibility devolve upon the secretary.

The ruins of the old Board of Trade building have been cleared away and the property put in shape for another structure, but as yet the Board has not determined whether it will re-build on the old site or on its First street property. If it abandons the new site some fine and tempting bonuses by surrounding property owners will have to be given up. All records of previous action by the board relative to building having been destroyed, the

board is holding meetings occasionally to go over the work again. The question of building will soon be determined as to the site and the block will go up this year. Insurance on the old building is being adjusted.

J. D. Boyd, formerly of Grand Rapids, Mich., but for some time past a resident of this city and an old member of the Board of Trade, died recently at his home here. He had been active in commercial and business circles.

Projected railroad branches and lines are still being mooted and it is not at all improbable that several new lines will be in course of construction by early Spring. The Fosston line, it is said with considerable confidence, will be built this coming summer, and this will open up a new wheat country or rather bring a vast wheat valley much nearer the city. All these things help and it is gratifying to note that all roads from the wheat fields point toward Duluth. While the storing capacity at the head of the lake is considerably increased over that of last year, the capacity will be still further increased during the coming year, if present plans hold, all tending to cheapen and facilitate the handling of wheat.

The building of this Crookston-Fosston line to Duluth will make an important addition to the Northwest railway system. It will provide almost an air line between the city and the Red River Valley country, and the advantage to the milling industry at the head of the lakes will be very large. The Great Northern railway will be able to dictate wheat rates to Duluth and Superior, giving the millers here a decided lead over those in Minneapolis. With the completion of this line in the Great Northern system, Duluth will be the central point of another great trans-continental route. Passengers will be brought from the Pacific coast and intermediate points and here transferred to the palatial new steamers which have just been turned out for President Hill, and sent at the rate of 25 or 30 miles an hour down the lakes to Buffalo. W. P. Clough, Vice-President of the road, states that work on the construction of the new line will be begun early this spring. These gigantic enterprises, all converging at Duluth, are the alphabet in which will be written the history of a wonderful city in years to come.

Hugh McLennan, proprietor of the Montreal Transportation Co., has been in the city this week visiting A. D. Thompson, the big grain dealer. While here, Mr. McLennan was shown through the Imperial Mill—an institution much larger and

better equipped than is generally supposed. It has a capacity of 8,500 barrels of flour in 24 hours. The mill has facilities for storing 100,000 barrels of flour; at the docks three vessels may be loaded at the same time. The equipment of the Imperial is complete. There are 146 double sets of 9x24 and 9x30 inch rolls, 188 pound reel bolting machines, 57 centrifugal reels or bolter, 113 purifiers, 44 wheat heaters, 41 scalping machines, 32 wheat cleaners and 122 dust catchers. For lighting the mill there are 800 sixteen candle power incandescent electric lamps, furnished with a current generated in the power house. The motive power of the plant consists of two marine engines of 700 and 1000 horse power. The mill has turned out in one month a larger amount of flour than any other mill, in a similar time, in the world.

President George Spencer, of the Board of Trade, has taken his family South for the remainder of the winter. Mr. Spencer will return in about ten days.

Ex-Secretary Welles, of the Board of Trade, has moved to Toledo, his former home, where he will permanently reside.

The Spring inventory of the coal companies at the head of the lakes will show a half million tons of coal on dock at the opening of navigation. This is an unusual record. The mills have run light and have not consumed the amount of fuel that has been figured on, besides, the consumption of wood by families has been greater than usual, because it has been cheaper than coal.

The Imperial started up on Monday of this week and it is probable that the big mill will run steadily for the remainder of the close season.

The Duluth Roller Mill has run irregularly on local orders for the past few weeks.

Duluth May wheat sold at 1½ cent premium over Chicago today, and some of the enthusiasts of the trade state an opinion that the premium will go to 2 cents. The Duluth market is the strongest in the country.

H. F. J.

DULUTH, March 6.

SUPERIOR.

BUT little flour has been made in Superior during the past few weeks, but the outlook is improving every day. During the first week in March the mills have turned out 23,500 bbls. of flour, while for February the production of flour at the head of the lakes, the receipts of flour and grain, as compared with February, 1893, was as follows:

Flour produced, Sup. bbls.	1891.	1893.
" " Dul. "	60,792	16,751
Flour, bbls. received	14,111	48,183
Wheat, bus.	24,050	11,499
Corn, " "	1,023,749	236,496
Oats, " "	69,478	30,478
Rye, " "	6,267	
Barley, " "	1,132	
Flax, " "	833	
	1,138	374

The shipments of flour and grain during February this year, as compared with last February are as follows:

Flour from Dul. bbls	1891.	1893.
" " Sup. "	12,540	72,612
Wheat, bus.	70,801	16,751
Corn, " "	75,207	15,877
Oats, " "		
Rye, " "	11,945	
Barley, " "	2,210	
Flax, " "		374

The mills in operation this week are the Anchor, Freeman, Grand Republic and Lake Superior and Imperial, consequently the output will be larger than for any previous week for the month past. Since the last report from here the railroads have seen fit to concede to the constant demand for lower freight rates to the sea board, and in the last week in February made a reduction of 5 cents per 100 lbs. to New York. The schedule readjusted stands as follows:

From Superior to:

	All rail.	Across lake
New York.....	32½	30½
Montreal.....	32½	30½
Boston.....	32½	30½
Philadelphia.....	30½	28½
Scranton.....	30½	28½
Baltimore.....	29½	27½
Cortland.....	31½	29½
Reading or Harrisburg.....	30½	28½
Albany, Troy, Schenectady.....	31½	29½
Utica.....	30½	28½
Syracuse.....	28½	26½
Rochester, Mount Morris.....	28½	27½
Corning.....	28½	27½
Buffalo, Erie.....	27½	27½
Hornellsville.....	26	27
Kingston.....	31½	29½
Binghamton.....	31½	29½
Chicago.....	12½	
Peoria.....	12½	
Detroit.....	21½	
Toledo.....	21½	
Indianapolis.....	20½	
Cincinnati.....	20½	
Cleveland.....	20½	
Des Moines.....	22½	
Omaha.....	23	
New Orleans.....	37½	

The rates above apply for inland transportation to seaboard points on shipments intended for export, except that consignments for export, via Portland, Me., and Boston, Mass., take the New York rate, and export business via Montreal takes the Philadelphia rate.

The reduction, which amounts to 10 cents a barrel, while considerable has not induced to very heavy shipments nor orders, yet the tendency is toward an increase of the output. In addition to the published reduction it is thought the railroads may make even better rates, either privately or generally before the opening of navigation. During the bull movement in wheat, prices were a little advanced but they have generally settled back to the old points.

Everything indicates an early opening of navigation and consequently the mills will soon begin on the regular spring run of accumulating stock for the first shipments. Besides, unless all signs fail, there will be a fair general demand this spring for both the export and domestic trade. At any rate,

there is a confident feeling prevailing among the millers who are buying freely, and in every necessary way preparing for a big output in the early spring and summer.

On Monday of this week the report from the elevators showed 11,000,000 bushels of wheat in store as against 16,000,000 bushels at the corresponding date last year. This is a considerable decrease, yet the receipts are strong, and notwithstanding the exceptionally low price, it is thought that the amount on hand on the opening of navigation will not be very much below the amount on the opening last year.

It has been finally decided that Superior shall have a Board of Trade and a strong one, too. A few evenings since, about 30 of the substantial business men of the city, including millers, grain men and bankers, met at the Euclid and decided that a board should be organized and maintained. R. M. Todd, the well known miller, was elected chairman of the meeting, and W. H. Slack secretary. In his opening remarks, Mr. Todd said that he thought it useless for them to further think that Duluth will do anything tending toward co-operation with Superior in building up a board of trade. "We have," said Mr. Todd "five times the milling, and two times the storage capacity of Duluth, while 95 per cent of the wheat that comes to the head of the lake passes through Superior. Now what we need is the storage tracks and 24 hours inspection." He counseled harmony of all the sections of the city, and was confident a strong and useful board could be established and maintained.

J. J. Atkinson said Duluth's Board of Trade made that city practically what it is; it took to that town the railroad and steamship offices, and made it the financial centre of the head of the lakes. The expenditure of \$4,000 a year would give Superior such an organization. Should the board want to build, a site would undoubtedly be donated on Tower Ave. L. R. Hurd said that with good facilities—a first-class board, grain men could be induced to locate in the city. The board needed storage tracks, 24 hours inspection, and complete market reports. C. F. Listman, and Messrs. Bardon, Knowles, Tennis, McCullom, Sunderland, Banks, Brooks, Scott, Kennedy, Clarke, Agen, Culver, Catlin, Dietzen, Page, Butler, Fowler, Wilson, Ostrander, Deyo, Mills, Le Clair, all favored immediate action and the organization of a board that would be a factor in commercial affairs and a credit to the city. Committees were appointed, financial aid pledged, and the board will

soon be one of the strong institutions at the head of the lakes.

At a subsequent meeting permanent officers were elected as follows: R. M. Todd, president; A. A. Cross, first vice-president; C. J. McCollom, second vice-president; J. J. Atkinson, secretary; Peter Deyo, treasurer; directors for three years, L. N. Paige, C. C. Tennis and James Bardon; director for one year, W. H. Crumpton; board of arbitration, C. J. McCollom, W. M. Tait, G. F. Wilson, W. H. Crumpton, L. N. Paige; board of appeals, E. C. Kennedy, L. R. Hurd, James Bardon, A. Ruyter, T. G. Alvord.

FREE GRAIN.

At one of the first meetings of the new board of trade, the following resolution was introduced by James Bardon and discussed at length by the board. Pending its adoption it was laid over to a subsequent meeting for further consideration, although it was the unanimous opinion that free wheat would be a bonanza for Superior:

Whereas, the position of Superior and Duluth, convenient to the great wheat fields of the North American continent, and at the westerly limit of inland lake navigation, has led to the recent erection here of the largest and best equipped flouring mills in the world, built for a daily capacity of 26,000 barrels, and actually turning out at this season not less than one half that amount; together with several systems of elevators of a total capacity of 30,000,000 bushels thus placing these two cities at once in the front rank as flour and wheat centers; and

Whereas, it is the opinion of the board of trade of the city of Superior that in addition to the wheat now received here from the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota, it is for the special interest and advantage of all the mills and elevators here and of the transportation lines and for the general interest of all the people of the country that the very superior quality of wheat raised in the Canadian Northwest, with which territory Superior and Duluth will soon be directly connected by the Canadian Pacific (over the Duluth & Winnipeg Railway line, to be finished this year) be encouraged, by repeal of the present tariff duties, to seek a market at Superior and Duluth; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Board of Trade of the City of Superior, that Congress be respectfully requested to remove the tariff from wheat, at least from that produced in the Canadian Northwest, and our senators and members are respectfully urged to immediately use their best efforts towards bringing about that result through the tariff bill now pending, for the price of wheat being fixed by the crop of the world, we are finally convinced that free wheat will work injury to no interest, not even that of the farmer, but on the other hand will greatly benefit all the people of these United States.

A resolution was passed by the board fixing the membership fee at \$100 if paid within 90 days and \$200 after that time, and the dues at \$35 a year. A subscription was taken and \$1,000 donated for immediate

current expenses. The Board has some of the strongest and most active men in the city on its roll of membership, and it starts out with every assurance of success.

THE OUTLOOK.

Recently letters have been received by business men here from their correspondents in the East, asking these questions: What effect will the extreme low price of wheat have on business in Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas—what are the prospects for advancement in general business at the head of the lakes? Both questions are very pertinent at this time and are undoubtedly being asked by many. That the extreme low prices of wheat have had a depressing effect upon trade throughout the Northwest, there can be no doubt. The effect is being felt by the smaller purchases on the part of farmers and others, and lower prices of merchandise, lands and all kinds of property. The farmer, up to date, has not had as great losses as the merchants and manufacturers, because the wheat crop last year was good and the bulk of it was sold at prices better than those which prevail now. Northwestern farmers, while making a good living, are not becoming wealthy, and the coming year will be an especially hard one for them. One of the effects of the very low price of wheat this year will be to curtail the acreage somewhat, but that will be to the advantage of the farmer, for he will use his land to better advantage. In Southern Minnesota where diversified farming prevails, the granger is in for better shape than those who know only how to sow and reap wheat at from 35 to 50 cents per bushel in the wheat valleys. In Northern Minnesota, and the Dakotas, more attention will be given to barley and flax, which yield well, and to stock. In some portions of North Dakota the farmers are raising hogs and using high grade wheat to fatten them, and in one case where there are from one to two thousand porkers on the farm, the experiment has proved a success—or rather it was better than selling the wheat. In a general way it can be said that while the Northwest will suffer from the present low prices of wheat, the section will still maintain a fair measure of prosperity.

The other question is easier answered—matters at the head of the lake are at bed rock. The outlook for business is not what it was a few years ago, but it is fair—perhaps better than at any other point in the country. The manufacturing plants will do a fair business, always leaning toward safety

in conservatism. The flour output will exceed that of last year, while the ore shipments promise at least to equal those of '93. There will be considerable lake traffic, but freights will be low. The price of labor will be lower than was ever known before in this part of the country, but many of the men now idle will be given work. Money is easy, but first-class security is demanded. There will be some new railroad developments—building, railroad construction, etc., and so far as the future can be determined by data at hand, it can be predicted with a reasonable degree of safety, that business in every department of industry will grow better slowly, but continually as the year advances, and that by the close, matters will be swinging along at a pretty satisfactory pace.

A few days ago a strike was inaugurated at the Daisy Mill, by 30 flour and feed packers and barrel nailers. The men had been receiving \$1.75, \$2.00 and \$2.25 a day, and were cut from 12½¢ to 25¢ each. The mill was not stopped on account of the strike, and after a day or two for reflection most of the men were back in their places. The mill has been run about as much in the interest of the employees, of late, as in that of the management, and the strike was in poor taste.

Col. H. H. Heath, a mill owner of Mauston, Wis., has been looking over the city and flouring plants during the past week. He was, like every one else, enthusiastic over the future prospects of the city.

Capt. McDougall of the American Steel Barge Co., is again in the East in the interests of his ship building affairs. There will be more or less work in the whaleback yards this season.

George C. Watson, manager of the newly organized bag factory, is moving his family here from Minneapolis. The factory, one of the largest in the Northwest, will soon be in operation.

The West Superior Elevator & Storage Co., has filed articles of incorporation. Those interested are J. S. Hillyer, Arthur Miller, Louis Honitch, L. H. Paige, and O. H. Whitaker. The company will do a general elevator and grain business. It has leased the elevator at the Grand Republic Mill.

The Listman Milling Co. of La Crosse, and the William Listman Co. of Superior are in contention over the brand trade mark "Marvel," and the attorneys and courts are helping them to settle the matter. Arguments were made in the circuit court at Superior, recently on the motion made to set aside the temporary injunction granted the La Crosse Company restraining the Superior Co. from using the trade

mark. Judge Marshall denied the motion, but modified the injunction so that it would not operate against any flour that had been shipped, that is now in transit, or any stock bearing the brand. The case will be taken to the supreme court.

Flour to retailers here in the city, in 196 pound sacks, sells for \$3.40 to \$3.60 for patents, and \$3.20 to \$3.25 for straights.

It is estimated that about 1,800,000 bushels of wheat have been contracted to go forward on the opening of navigation, the rate being 2½ cents a bushel to Buffalo. All tonnage which wintered in the city has been placed at 3 cents.

SUPERIOR, March 7. E. T. D.

LONDON.

THE month of February has been remarkable for many things connected with the milling and kindred trades. As regards the weather which has not in the least manner helped the wheat or flour trades, on the whole having been too mild and wet, although for a short period, slight frosts were experienced. The mildness of the weather lowered the consumption of bread during February to a very low ebb and at the same time advancing vegetation rather too far. In fact, fruit trees are so forward that in some cases the buds are all but ready to burst, which is unfortunate for the fruitgrowers, as such forwardness is dangerous and gives rise to fears of short fruitcrops. As regards the autumn sown cereals they are looking very well and the season so far has been most favorable. During the past two weeks a good breadth of peas and beans have been sown, and barley and oats have been drilled to some extent although it is somewhat early for barley. If the weather remains as favorable during the present month as the past there is good prospects with an average spring of another early harvest. But the weather, though favorable for farm work militates against the prosperity of the wheat trade and so February, with the good accounts coming from all European countries of the prospects of the coming harvest, has seen throughout, dull, dragging markets all over the United Kingdom. Week after week we have seen prices gradually falling and the prices in the wheat and flour trade have only been prevented from falling lower from the fact that ten days ago the Bank Rate to 2 per cent, which stimulated speculation not only in the wheat markets, but in other industrial centres. It is also a fact that the wholesale shutting-down of the flour mills in the Northwest greatly stimulated the market here by giving hope to those merchants

who had lost heart and considered the "Corn Trade" a wretched business. By the shutting down of the majority of the mills in the Northwest it is hoped that the enormous stocks of flour held here will be lessened and that the policy of consigning will be given up. There is however no gaining, saying the fact that within a very short time the wheat market will be on a firmer basis. As regards the flour trade the markets all over the U. K. remain in a very quiet and dull state, the consumption inquiry being very disappointing. The factors in Mark Lane have become so accustomed to a sluggish condition that they do not look forward with any degree of hope.

During this week the French senate voted by 189 to 32, the import duty of 7 francs per quintal on wheat. With the promulgation of the bill in the official journal it becomes law.

NEW DUTIES.

	Per qr., 440 lbs. 12s2d	Per sack, 280 lbs. 8s1d
Wheat.	7 francs.	280 lbs.
Flour yield 70% and above	11 francs	11s2d
" " 70 to 80% "	13s50 "	13s8d
" " 80% and below	16 "	16s3d

Before this change the duties in force were as follows:

	Per qr., 440 lbs. 12s2d	Per sack, 280 lbs. 8s1d
Wheat.	5 francs.	280 lbs.
Flour yield 70% and above	8 francs	8s1d
" " 70 to 80% "	10 "	10s1d
" " 80% and below	12 "	12s2d

A council meeting of the National Association of British and Irish Millers was held on Wednesday last. When the resolutions arrived at by the Committee, which had been formed to deal with the question of the London Form of Wheat Contracts were considered, and with the exception of a few minor alterations adopted by the Council, who will now approach the London Corn Trade Association in order to get the desired reforms carried out. What decision is come to shall be communicated to the readers of the UNITED STATES MILLER when settled. The next question the meeting discussed, was the place to hold a general meeting next month, for the purpose of electing a president for the year 1894-95, that is from the time of the next convention, when the next president takes office.

The one event of the month of February that has exercised the attention of the English Milling Engineers, the majority of whom were to be seen in Court each day has been the trial before Mr. Justice Kennedy in the High Court of Justice; Queen's Bench-Division of Parkinson *versus* Simon. The case is a very interesting one and involves the question of an alleged infringement of the "Kohinor" Midlings Sieve Purifier which was patented in the year 1890 by Messrs. T. & G. Parkinson,

the millers of Doncaster who granted the sole right of manufacture to Messrs. Thomas Robinson & Son, limited, of Rochdale. In the Kohinor Purifier there is a tapering sieve over which is a deflector which makes the air current as it passes through the sieve and the material travelling on it, spread with the light particles in a lateral direction before going to the fan in the chamber above, so that the heaviest of the particles fall on to wide deposit platforms each side of the tapering sieve. Mr. Henry Simon, who is the defendant in the action, is the well known engineer and is alleged to have adopted one or more of the features of Messrs. Parkinson's patent in his "New Reform" purifier. The trial opened on Tuesday, the 21st of February, and after the best part of eight days hearing the judge reserved his judgement until next week. Mr. Bonsfield, Q. C., M. P. with whom was Mr. Lewis Edmunds and Mr. Neill, opened the case for the plaintiff and the first three days were occupied examining expert witnesses, millers and others on behalf of the plaintiff's case. The opening of the defendant's case by Sir Richard Webster Q. C., M. P. with whom was Mr. Moulton Q. C. and Mr. Carmichael, examining of witnesses for the defense and the summing up by Mr. Moulton Q. C. for the defendant, occupied the best part of four days, while the eighth day of the hearing of the case was taken up with the reply on behalf of the plaintiff.

The witnesses on behalf of the plaintiff were: Dr. Hopkinson, a well known scientific expert, who testified that the defendant's purifier was in his opinion an infringement of the plaintiff's patent; Mr. Boulton, the patent agent, who upheld the plaintiff's patent; Mr. Heywood, a baker of Manchester, Mr. Moody, a flour factor of Manchester and Mr. G. Howard, a baker of Redford, spoke of the superior quality of flour produced by Messrs. Parkinson, when the Kohinor system of purification was introduced; Mr. P. Murphy, the manager of Messrs. S. Kidd & Co's. mill at Isleworth, who spoke of the superiority of the Kohinor purifier over the purifier Mr. Simon manufactured prior to the machine with alleged infringement; Mr. A. W. Rowe, mill manager at Messrs. Brown & Co's. mill in London, and Mr. Sumner, a miller at Chorley, Lancashire, spoke in their evidence of the manner the Kohinor purifier worked; Mr. Hugh J. Sanderson, milling engineer and Mr. L. Rolfe, (one of Messrs. Thomas Robinson & Sons' milling experts) testified to the working of the plaintiff's and defendant's ma-

chines; Mr. Arthur Robinson of the firm of Messrs. Thomas Robinson & Son, Limited, gave evidence as to why and how their firm took up the sole license; and Mr. G. M. Parkinson, one of the patentees, explained the history of the invention.

The witnesses called on behalf of Mr. Henry Simon, the defendant, were: Sir Frederick Bramwell, the distinguished scientific expert, who thought there was no substantial difference between old and new sieve purifiers and that the features in the plaintiff's patent were not new; Mr. H. B. Moss, a miller of Salford, who spoke of fixing boards on the side of a Carter sieve purifier in 1888; Mr. Joseph Shackleton, miller of Leeds, who gave evidence of having had in 1887 a sieve planked up with boards; Mr. Geo. Packer, an operative miller, who spoke of canvas being pasted on the sides of cover in a sieve purifier prior to the plaintiff's patent; Mr. Joseph Vickers, millwright for Messrs. Rushworth Brothers at Leeds, and Mr. Ingham, mill manager at the same place, gave evidence of having had a purifier with boards fixed in it to lessen the silk surface; Mr. Arthur McDougall of the City Mills, Manchester, spoke as to the quality of the flour produced being due largely to the quality of the wheat; Mr. Sydney Leatham, a miller of York, explained the working of the defendant's machines; M. Swinburne, an engineer, and Mr. A. Humphries, a mill manager, followed with their description of the defendant's purifiers; Mr. Joseph Ingleby, one of Mr. Simon's managers, and Mr. Henry Simon, the defendant, also gave evidence.—The milling world here are now awaiting the decision of the judge which I will communicate in my next letter. DRESSER.

LONDON, March 2, 1894.

LITERARY NOTES.

HARPER's for April will anticipate the next naval battle by describing a supposed duel at sea between two armored cruisers of the first class. The article is written by Lieutenant S. A. Staunton, of the United States Navy, and amply illustrated by Mr. R. F. Zogbaum.

HARPER's MAGAZINE for April will contain a story by Richard Harding Davis called "The Writing on the Wall." It deals with the cosmopolitan population of Cairo, and the scene is laid at a dinner given by an Egyptian official to diplomatists and tourists, the interest centering in a member of the Russian legation and a fair American.

HARPER & BROTHERS will publish early in March "The Jewish Question," by the author of "The Mission of the Jews" in the January Harper's Magazine; "Our English Cousins," by Richard Harding Davis; "For Honor and Life," by William Westall, and "Life's Little Ironies," by Thomas Hardy.

HARPER's BAZAR for this week announces a thrilling story by Walter Besant, called "In Three Weeks," and an article by Mrs. Candace Wheeler entitled "Color in House Interiors," treating of walls and ceilings.

HOME AND COUNTRY for March is well illustrated and interesting in variety of contents. They comprise "The Banshee," A Story of the Irish Ghost. By Violet Etyng Mitchell; "Hymns in War Times," Their Influence on the Soldier, By Rev. James H. Ross; "Orchards of Pine," The Resin Forests of North Carolina. By Frank Donaldson; "A Golden Penny," An Alchemic Mystery. By Harrison D. Mason; "The Artist as an Advertising Agent," By Luma Sorag; "Billy Mudd's Boot," A Frontiersman's Story. By Samuel A. Risley; "Read Your Bible," A Love-Story. By Sophia A. Kane; "A Danger Signal, Stop," By William C. Crane; "A Night's Experience at Sandy Hook Light-house," By Marie De La Nois; "Serpent Worship and Its Mysteries," By Samuel Jaros; "Heroes of the Green Turf," Life and Duties of Jockeys, By Thomas Pease; "The Great Metropolitan Journals, and the Men Who Make Them," By Samuel Jaros; "Educational Value of Toys," By Lawrence Bowen, and "Something About Figures," By Sidney Miller Rowles.

"A Whistling Little Man," by Egbert L. Bangs, and "Baby Fingers," by John Fowler, as also other things in poetic vein, complete a very attractive number of this popular Magazine.

THE March number of *The Century* contains a great variety of points. The opening article is a sketch of the Tuileries under Napoleon III, written by a lady who was a governess in one of the court families. The accompanying portraits are especially interesting. The announcement of the book on Lourdes by Zola gives timeliness to "A Pilgrimage to Lourdes" by Stephen Ronsal—a graphic record of individual experience at this famous shrine. Mrs. Van Rensselaer describes one of New York's most beautiful buildings, the Madison Square Garden; Josiah Flynt writes of "The City Tramp," and incidentally shows the crying need of organized charity; Prof. Edward S. Holden tells a good deal that is new about earthquakes, and how to measure them; the Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden writes of "The Anti-Catholic League" in a way that will attract wide attention; William Mason, the well-known musician, discusses the work of the Norwegian composer, Edward Grieg. Major Andre also is a "contributor" to this number; his account of the "Mischianza," the famous festival given in honor of Sir William Howe in 1778, is printed from Major Andre's manuscript, heretofore unpublished.

Not more than half of the contents of this rich number are here enumerated. Published by The Century Co., New York.

THE "Progress of the World" of the *Review of Reviews* is not confined merely to a review and discussion of current political, financial, economic and sociological events. In this department of the March number, for instance, appears a report upon the geographical and scientific explorations that have recently been completed, or are now being carried on, accompanied by maps and portraits of the explorers.

THE March number of the *Review of Reviews* contains an article by the editor, Dr. Albert Shaw, on the Constitutional Convention, which is to meet at Albany, N. Y., in May of this year. After explaining the constitutional provision that an opportunity for amendments be given every twenty years,

Dr. Shaw gives details of the forthcoming meeting of the delegates who were elected in response to the vote of 1886 for a convention, and then reports an important interview which he himself has had with a delegate to this convention, who is in an especial position to forecast its action. This delegate outlines, in answer to Dr. Shaw's queries, the general scope of the convention's work and its probable action on certain specific questions of the highest importance, such as the provision for a Greater New York, a reform of the State Judiciary system, the introduction of proportional representation, educational reforms, certain changes in city governments, uniform charters, city home rule and various other city reforms.

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE for March opens with the second article by Joel Chandler Harris on "The Sea Island Hurricanes"—this one dealing especially with the great relief work which is being conducted by Miss Clara Barton and the Red Cross Society. The distress in these islands is likely to increase until the first crop shall be gathered in the late Spring, so that the necessity is apt to be direst at a time when the public has, for the most part, lost interest in the catastrophe. Mr. Harris, in his tour for *Scribner's Magazine* through all these islands, has presented not only the distressing part of the catastrophe but the humorous side of it which the sea-island negro so plentifully furnishes. He has used the finest literary skill in depicting these strange islands and their picturesque inhabitants, so that after reading the article one feels that he has actually lived in new and curious surroundings. The striking illustrations by Daniel Smith, made from sketches on the spot, add to this impression of reality.

Two articles of very practical interest to dwellers in American cities are entitled "The High Building and its Art," by Barr Ferree (one of the editors of the *Engineering Magazine*), who speaks with the authority of a skilled architect, and "The Cable Street-Railway," by Phillip G. Hubert, Jr., author of "Inventors". The High Building article shows how this entirely new form of architecture has grown up from economic necessities, and discusses the devices by which these huge structures can be made ornaments to a city rather than blot upon its appearance. The illustrations are selected from notable high buildings in the great cities of this country. Among them are the Masonic Temple in Chicago, the Ames Building in Boston, the building of the Equitable Life in Denver, the Union Trust Building in St. Louis, and the great buildings around Printing House Square in New York. In the Cable Railway article Mr. Hubert gives a perfectly clear description, in untechnical language, of the mechanical achievements which have resulted in the cable car. The illustrations show some of the huge machinery in the power-house; also the mechanism in the trench below the street.

A travel article of particular interest at this season is a description of "Subtropical Florida" by Charles Richards Dodge (of the Agricultural Department), who has made a number of interesting tours in the Southern part of the peninsula of Florida, where few travelers go. The illustrations by Chapman, from a fine collection of photographs, are unusually attractive.

THE March issue of *St. Nicholas* is like a modern army—not a few paladins and an accompanying rabble, but a congregation of effective units, with an officer where needed. Every article can look the juvenile or adult world square in

the face and give a reason for its being. A running comment upon the contents will, perhaps, best acquaint the public with the grounds for this opinion.

"Mothering Sunday" claims the frontispiece and the first article, and is a short statement designed to explain a name that has outlived its origin; an American finds Thanksgiving Day a satisfactory substitute. "Owney, of the Mail-Bags" describes a little cur who has sworn allegiance to the "U. S. M." and travels from "Dan to Beersheba" without ceasing. "The Lilac" is a poem by Miss Wilkins. "Joseph Boruwlaski," as we learn from Mary Shears Roberts, was that rarest of wonders, a dwarf worthy of admiration—a thorough little gentleman. Harriet Monroe, in "Broken Friendship," tells a little fable (with illustrations by F. S. Church) pointing out that Aspiration and Grubbing are an ill-assorted couple—or, if that isn't what she means, how do you interpret her little story?

"The Lament of the Outgrown Doll," "Kept after School," "Spring Cleaning," "The Disappointed Sailor," "An Imaginary Case," "The Only Son of a Hatter," "An Accommodating Lion," "Guesses," "Taking Dolly's Photograph," "How the Little Kite Learned to Fly," are some of the short, bright, taking little pictures, verses, and "captions" of which *St. Nicholas* alone seems to possess the right secret.

Length and dignity, or some compensating quality, must be sought in Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer Abroad," Mr. Hornaday's "The Cat Family in Our Country," "Toinette's Philip," Mrs. Jamison's serial, and "Young George," an English historical story by Richard Marsh, an English contributor.

In "A Man-o'-War's Menagerie," Don C. Seitz gives us a view of the sailors' pets aboard the U. S. S. *San Francisco*; Dr. Eastman continues his fascinating revelations of Indian boy life; Gustav Kobbe tells in his usual bright, accurate way the experiences of "A Boy Whaler"; there is a remarkable "realistic" article on "A Kansas Cyclone"; a contribution recording "The History of a Dagger," by Lida M. Tulloch; a most painstaking and instructive "Lesson in Electricity" by Philip Atkinson; a notion by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, and an amusing fairy story signed "Lee Carter."

Children who love the Brownies (and it looks as if they would hold the majority of votes soon) will be delighted to learn that the little fellows are to be seen in a play, a portion of which is printed in this number of the magazine. The play reads as if it would act well, but there is no doubt it does, for the play has proved a success.

TO LIMIT THE WHEAT BONDING PRIVILEGE IN FRANCE.

A press dispatch dated Paris, Feb. 8, to the *Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin*, says: At a Cabinet Council held at the Palace of the Elysee to-day, it was decided that the Government should introduce into the Chamber of Deputies a bill limiting to one year the period for which wheat may be bonded. It was also decided, pending the enforcement of the new duties on wheat, to impose a sur-tax d'entrepot on wheat from other countries than those of Europe. Imported flour may be bonded, and when it is taken out of bond it will have to pay, in addition to the wheat duty, interest thereon from the date on which it was imported.

A GRAND PRODUCTION.

There are dictionaries, and dictionaries galore now days. One can hardly pick up a periodical of any kind without finding displayed one or more advertisements of encyclopedias or dictionaries. In spite of this plethora of word-information, however, one seldom sees a dictionary which is just what it should be. There are too many cheap editions on the market, which are being worked off as premiums for subscribers, prizes for good guessers, and like advertising fakes. Many of the old "standard" publications, which are merely revisions upon revisions of the dictionary of 100 years ago, preserve the taint of obsolete forms, which detracts from their value to the student of today. When one desires a dictionary for ornament, it makes but little difference what is contained between the covers, so they be heavy and impressive looking, but to the man who wants a book for service, the choice of a publication of this nature is an important matter.

The recently issued first volume of Funk & Wagnalls Company's Standard Dictionary of the English Language is certainly the most complete and satisfactory work of the kind that we have ever seen, and we are glad to add our unqualified approval of this new and valuable adjunct to the study, to that of the press generally. This is not a revision of an old edition, but is a new dictionary, so complete in every detail that it must become really standard. This work was commenced nearly four years ago and there have been engaged in its production two hundred and forty seven editors and specialists, besides over five hundred readers for quotations and a corps of several hundred men and women employed in the defining of words or classes of words. The magnitude of this undertaking may be conceived when it is said that, thus far, the cost of compilation has reached a half million of dollars, and it is estimated that over a million dollars will be expended before a single complete copy is ready for the market. The vocabulary to be embraced will be extraordinarily complete. As an example of its fullness we will cite the fact, that in the Webster (International) Dictionary the total terms in A number 8,358. In Worcester 6,983, while in this publication they aggregate 19,736. The full number of words and terms for the entire alphabet in Webster are 125,000; in Worcester 103,000 and in the Standard, they will number nearly 300,000.

Among the points, making the work specially valuable are the following: If a word has two or more meanings, the most common meaning is given first; preference being given to the "Order of Usage" over historical order, obsolete meanings and the Etymology are given last.

The Scientific Alphabet, prepared and promulgated by the American Philological Association and adopted by the American Spelling Reform Association is used in giving pronunciations. Disputed spellings and pronunciations have been referred, under the direction of Professor March to an advisory committee of fifty philologists in the world's leading Universities.

In the spelling of names in geography, the decisions of the U. S. Board on Geographic Names has been followed. The drift toward simpler forms of spelling has been recognized throughout the work.

In the definitions, special pains has been taken to make the work as thorough as possible and each set of words has been defined or passed upon by representatives of the science or art, or of the handicraft, party or class, or religious

denominations, to which the terms belong.

The illustrations are of a strikingly original and valuable character. There are numerous colored plates throughout the work which are masterpieces of the lithographers art.

This dictionary was awarded a diploma and medal at the World's Fair, upon the proof sheets and prospectus presented.

Dr. Sayce of Oxford College, Prof. Goodell of Yale, Prof. Skeat of Cambridge, England, the eminent Etymologist, Dr. Murray of Oxford, Dr. Peabody of Harvard, and scores of other representatives of nearly all the great English-speaking universities have given their strong approval of the work. The publication will be made in two volumes, each volume furnished in single or double volume edition. The single volume edition in Half Russia is furnished at \$12.00; in Full Russia, \$14.00 and Full Morocco, \$18.00. The two-volume edition in Half Russia, \$15.00; Full Russia, \$17.00 and Full Morocco, \$22.00. It is sold only on subscription by the publishers, Funk & Wagnalls Co., 18-20 Astor Place, New York City.

RECENT PATENTS.

The following list of patents for Milling and Grain-handling Appliances, granted during February, '04, is especially reported for the UNITED STATES MILLER by H. G. Underwood, Patent Attorney, 107 Wisconsin st., Milwaukee, Wis., who will send a copy of any patent named to any address for 25 cents.

- No. 514,317—Flour Bolt, W. D. Gray, Milwaukee, Wis.
- No. 514,016 Separating Machine, O. M. Morse, Jackson, Mich.
- No. 514,498 Grain Cleaner, J. C. Ross, Jr., Joliet, Ill.
- No. 515,259 Dust Collector, G. J. B. Skinner, St. Louis, Mo.
- No. 515,112 Grain Shovel, J. Cliff, Scriba, N. Y.
- No. 515,181 Grinding-mill, J. W. Vaughan, Taylorsville, Ind.
- No. 515,177—Grain measuring, registering and sacking machine, J. U. Teeter, Hagerstown, Ind.
- No. 515,500—Bolting reel, cloth-fastening device, J. Warrington, Indianapolis, Ind.
- No. 515,513—Drying and cooling apparatus for grain, G. W. Bissbee, Chicago, Ill.
- No. 515,542—Grain-separator machine, W. H. Webb, Longmont, Colorado.
- No. 515,618 Barley or other Grain Washer, J. A. Sadin, Nancy, France.

TRADE MARKS.

- No. 24,180 Everett, Aughinbaugh & Co., Waseca, Minn. Wheat-flour. The registrant's monogram, "E. A. & Co.," on a sheaf of grain. Used since Sept. 1, 1888.
- No. 24,252—Pindal Bros. & Co., Hannibal, Mo. Wheat flour. The word "Magnolia." Used since 1893.
- No. 24,268—Mauston Milling Co., Mauston, Wis. Milled Grain Products. A star with the monogram "M. M. Co." in the center. Used since Nov. 1, 1893.

It seems likely that the new Russo-German commercial treaty will be finally ratified before long, the committee of the Reichstag having adopted it as a whole by a vote of 16 to 12. In view of this some information bearing upon the probable effect of the treaty on exports of American bread-stuffs which has just been received by the State Department from Consul Mason of Frankfort will be found of in-

terest. It appears that before 1892 American and Russian wheat paid the same import duty in Germany, about \$12 per ton, and flour from either country paid \$25 per ton. In February of that year, however, Germany placed the United States in the class of the most favored nations and the duty on our wheat was reduced to \$8.33 per ton and on our flour to about \$17 per ton. Meanwhile imports from Russia continued to pay the general rates until August last year, when, in consequence of disagreements between the two governments, Germany summarily raised the rates 50 per cent, making that on wheat nearly \$18 and on flour \$37.50 per ton. The new commercial treaty, it appears, sweeps away all these discriminations and puts Russia among the favored nations with the United States.

STATISTICS show, according to Consul Mason, that even in the years of most abundant harvest Germany has to import bread-stuffs largely; that the deficiency is increasing annually in close proportion to the growth of population, and that the highest market values of wheat in Berlin were in 1873, when all grain was free of duty, and the lowest values were reached last year, when the duties were highest. Last year, with Russia crippled by the tariff, the United States furnished Germany with 314,928 tons of wheat, or nearly one-half of all that was imported, and at the same time supplied one-sixth of the flour and one-twelfth of the rye. Under the new treaty, however, if it is ratified in time, Russia will at once resume her old position as the source of nine-tenths of the rye supply, which will go to feed the peasants. With regard to wheat, Consul Mason says the question is complicated by the appearance of India, Australia, Argentina and Uruguay as competitors. It only costs 35c to raise a bushel of wheat in India, against 50c in the United States. In 1891, when the two countries were on equal terms, Russia, it appears, supplied 515,587 tons and the United States 144,678 tons of wheat to Germany, while the following year the figures were, United States 630,218 tons and Russia 257,991 tons. Last year Russia furnished but 21,636 tons.

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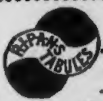
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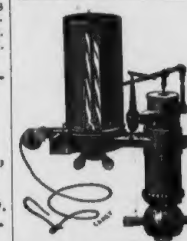
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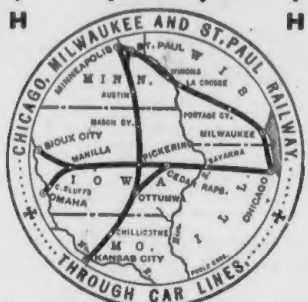
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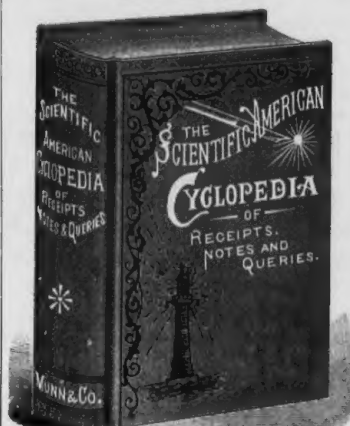
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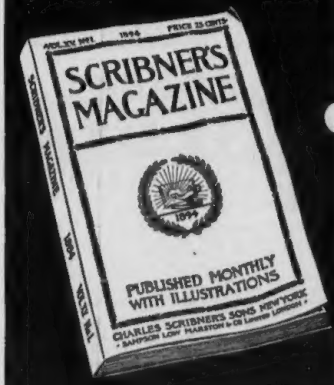
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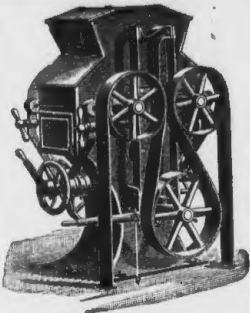
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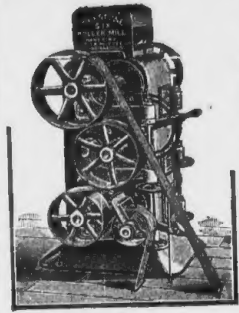
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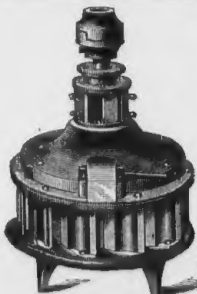
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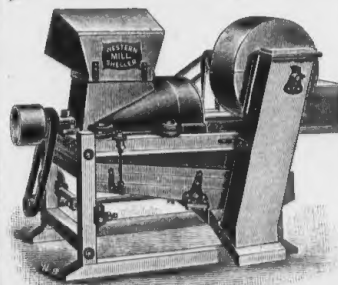
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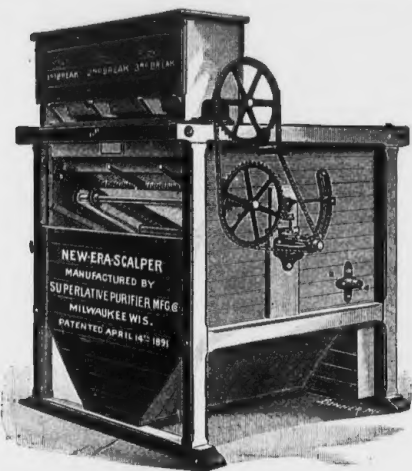
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